TWO OF US

THE GOLDEN YEARS OF OUR LIFE

A PICTORIAL NARRATIVE

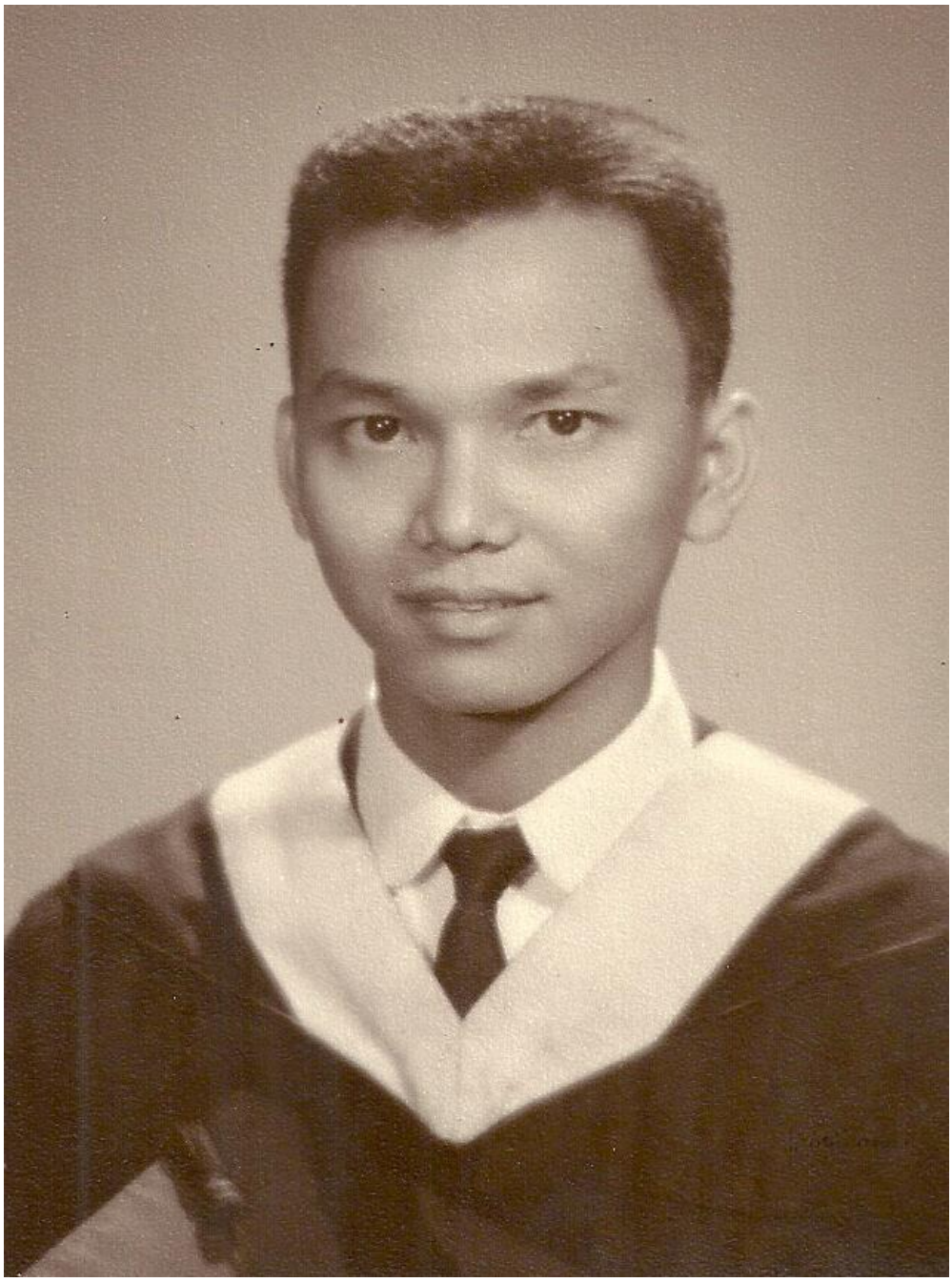
BY

CORNELIO T. AFRICANO

Eruption of Mayon. January 16, 2018

Sumlang Lake, Camalig, Albay

Bel on her graduation with a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Albay Normal School



My graduation with a Bachelor's degree in Economics

from the Ateneo de Manila University, 1966

Our first photo together at Bel's house in Camalig, Albay 1975

Our parents: Josue and Loreto Narce, Luis and Naty Obial

Our wedding at Santuario de San Antonio, Forbes Park, Makati

on May 1, 1976

My first kiss with my wife, Bel

With our Mass celebrant and wedding minister,

My dear friend, Fr. Herman Salvosa OFM

With our parents and my maternal grandmother, Dada Anggie

Cutting our wedding cake at Aberdeen Resto, Makati

With our best man, my brother Mar

Our house at 9 Katarungan, Kasibulan Village, Cainta, Rizal

Relaxing on our lawn, September 1976

The visit of Kuya Rolly and Ate Auring, the couple who introduced us to one another, December 1976

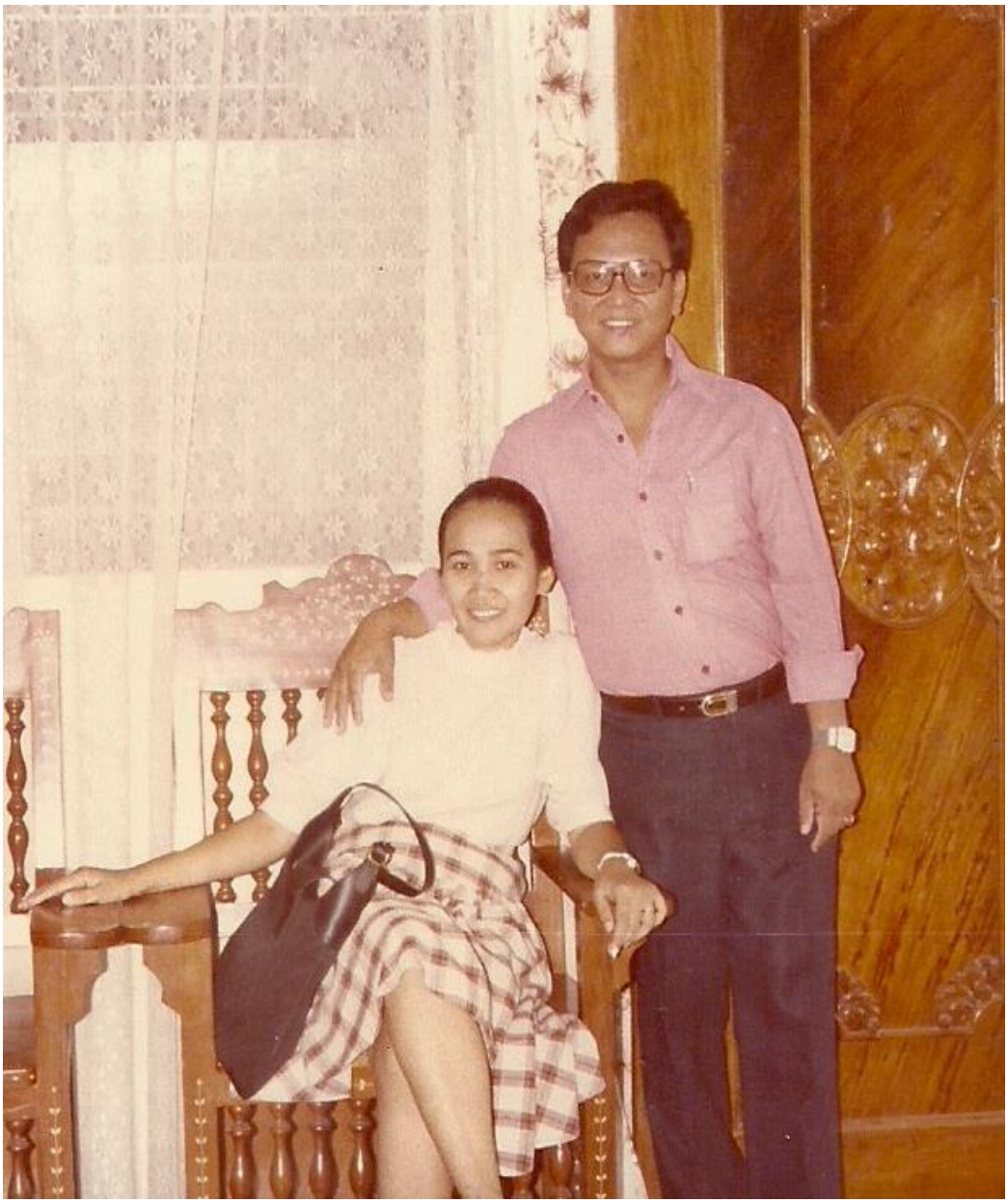
Celebrating our first wedding anniversary with Mass

at Santuario de San Antonio, May 1, 1977

Our first trip to Bicol in 1978

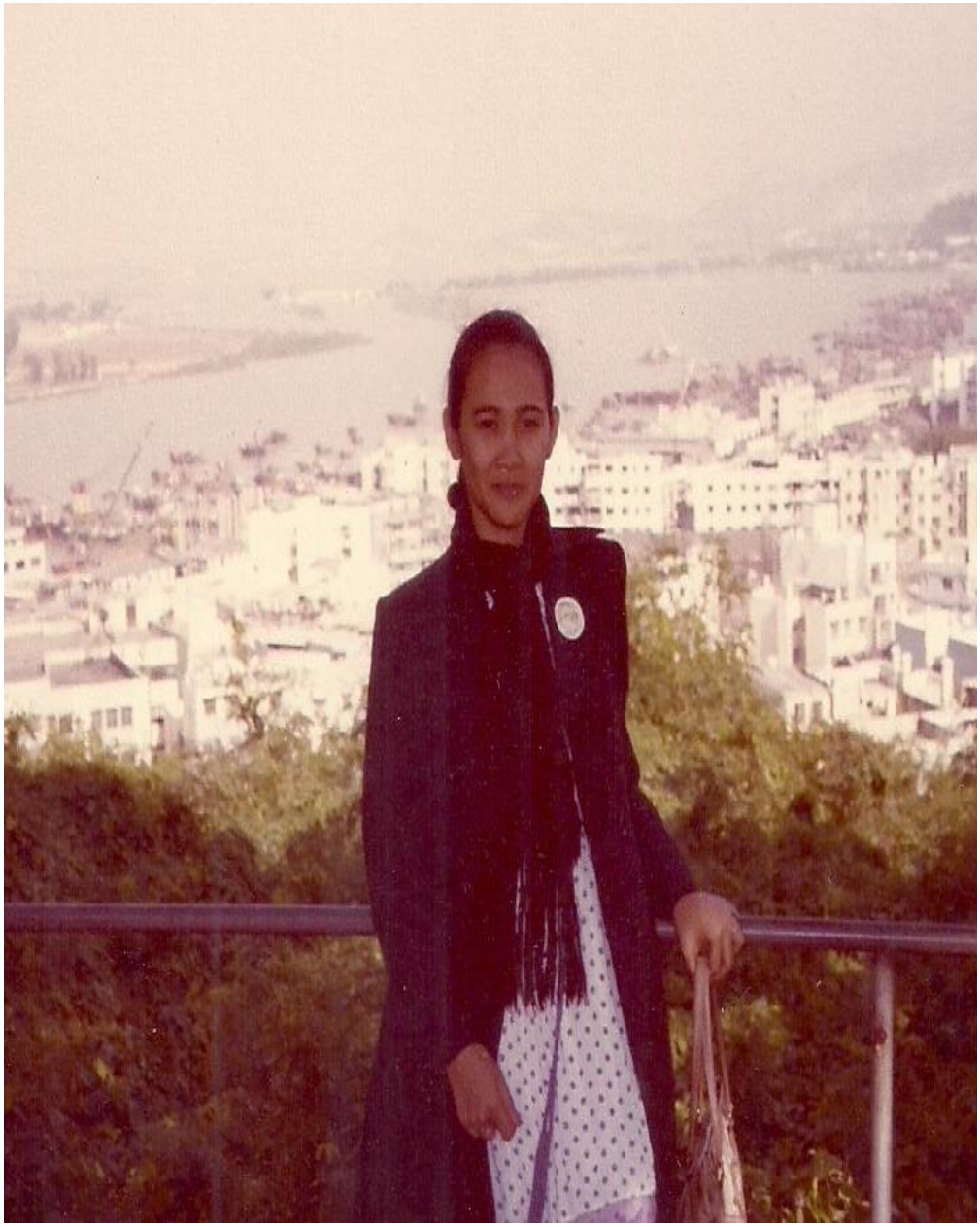
Our photo at the stone marker of Cagsawa Ruins 1978

The visit of her best friend, Sr. Ida Morin, OSB

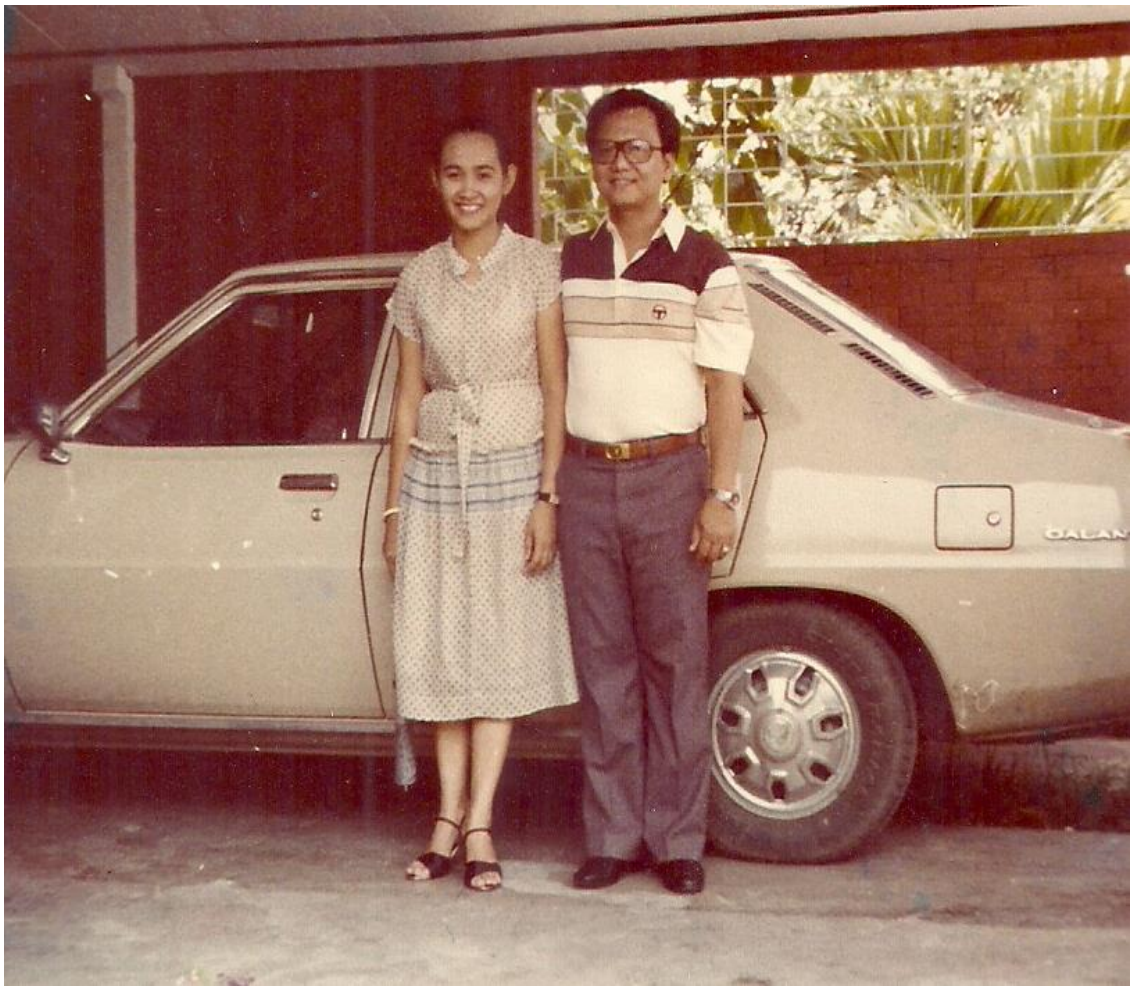


Bel's pre-departure photo at home for her trip to Hong Kong to attend the Asian Conference on Mental Retardation, 1980

Her photo at the St. Paul Cathedral Ruins in Macao

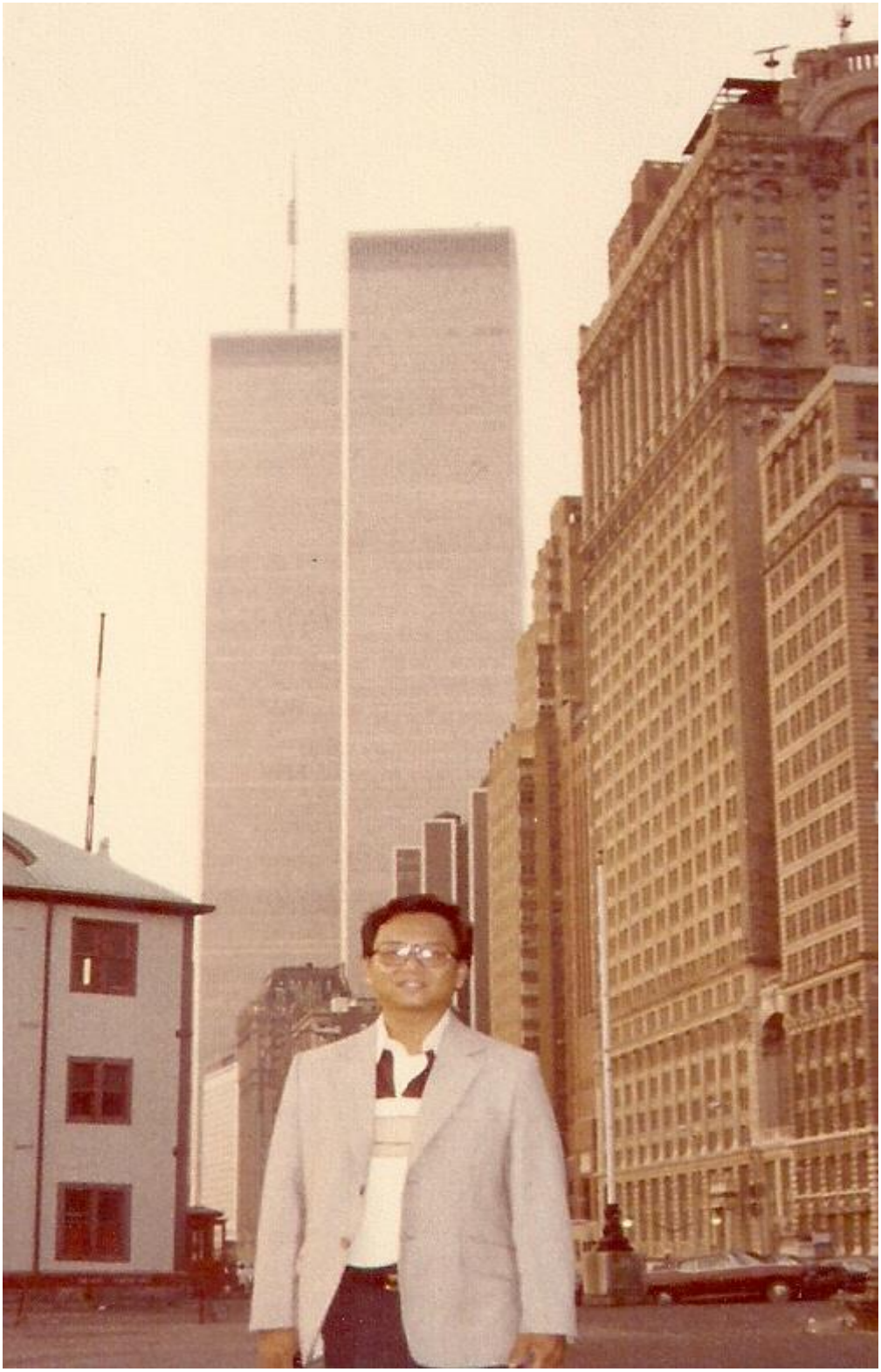


At the Phenna Hill of Macao

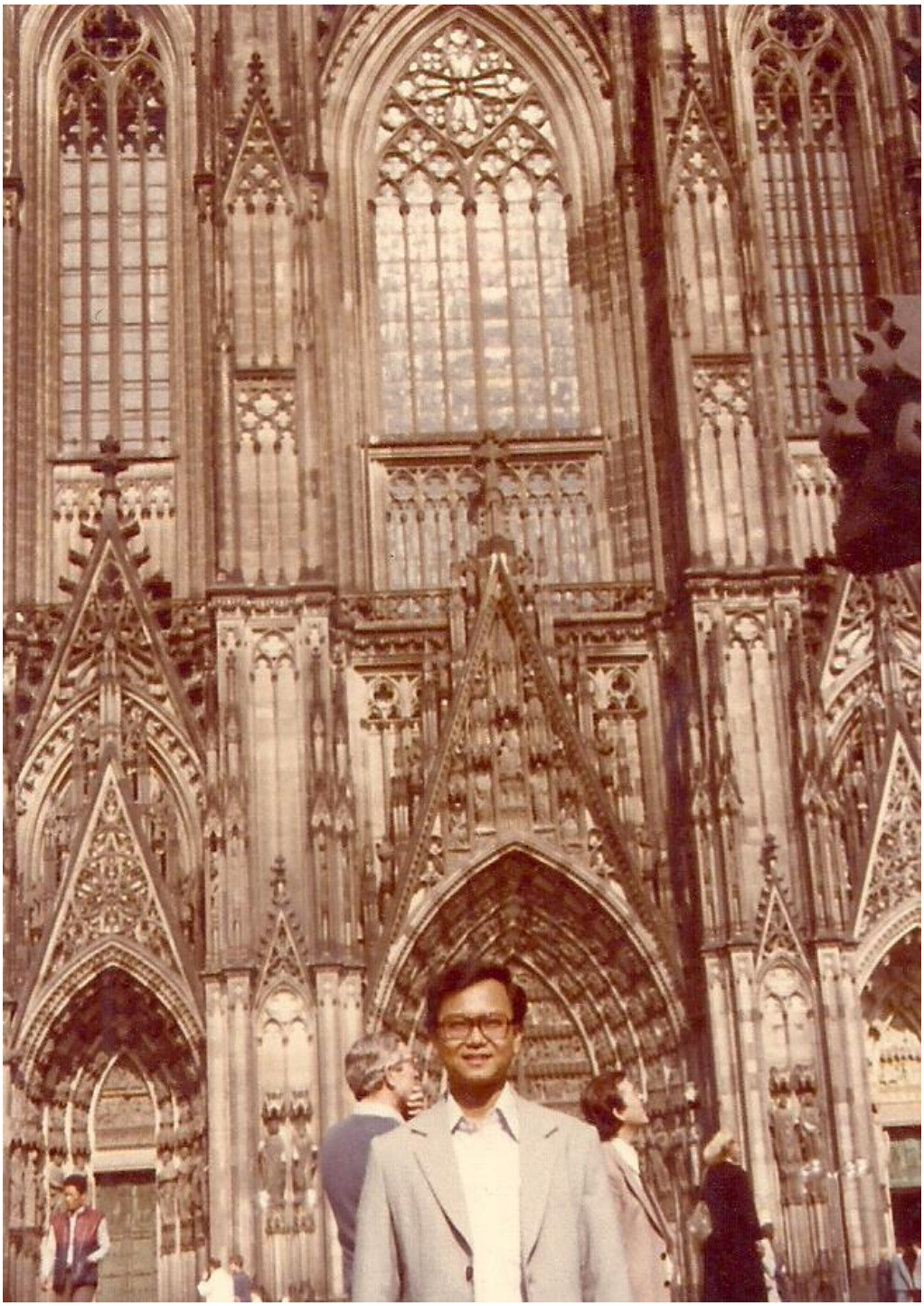


My pre-departure photo at home for my first trip around the world on official business for the renewal of the supply agreement for Elitool -Special Projects with our suppliers in the United States and Germany in 1981.

My solo visit to the Universal Studios of Hollywood



Part of my tour of New York City



In front of the Cathedral of Cologne, Germany

The Cathedral, the Rhine River and Me in Cologne, Germany

At Greenhills Promenade 1981 after my trip

Bel in her Muslin costume during her participation in the International Special Olympics in Baton Rouge, Louisiana USA In July 1983 as one of the five coaches of the Philippine Delegation

Bel at the Museum of Natural History, New York

Her visit at Pres. John F. Kennedy's grave at Arlington Cemetery

Washington D.C.

At the hot spring pool of Hidden Valley in Alaminos, Laguna in 1984

The first flood at home, July 1985

At the Magellan Cross Shrine in Cebu during our Southern tour in 1985

At the Grand Ballroom of Hotel Nikko Manila Garden during the fundraising affair of Dulot Sigla sa Dambana for Paete Church Restoration Project in October 1985

Celebrating my 42nd birthday at home on February 2,1986

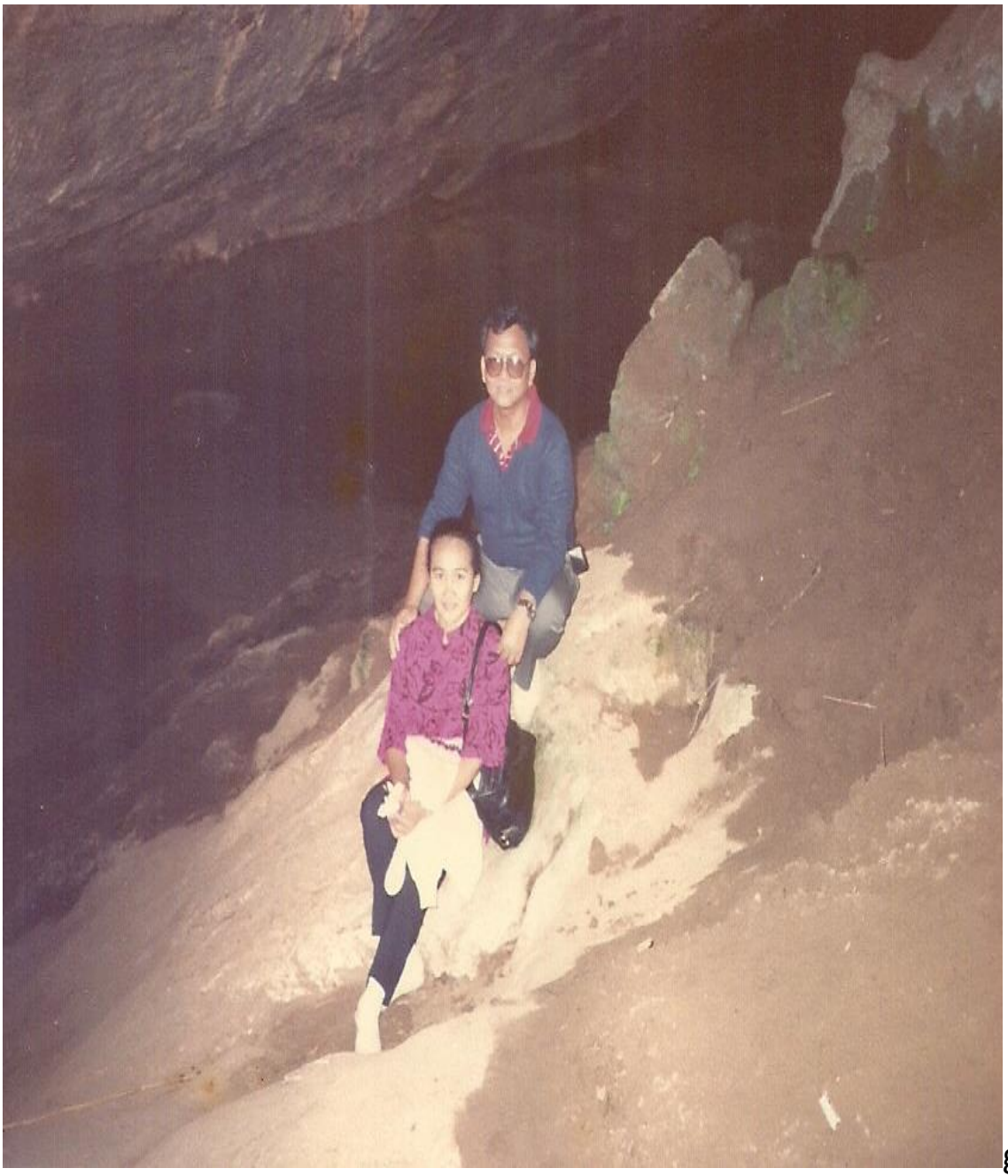
Our simple celebration of our 10th Wedding Anniversary

0n May 1, 1986

The visit of my benefactor, Sr. Mary Joseph Regis MM

(aka Sr. Caroline Macdonald) 1988

Our tour of Banaue Rice Terraces in February 1988

 g

Inside the Sumangin Cave of Sagada. Mountain Province 1988

Our first visit of the Philippine Military Academy in

Port Gregory del Pilar, Baguio City in 1990

Our survey of our Kaingin in mountain of Ticdao, Paete, Laguna

for our Paminta farm project 1988

Sa Paraiso ng Ticdao, 1988

At Fort Santiago, during our family city tour of Manila 1994

At the White Island of Camiguin in 1990

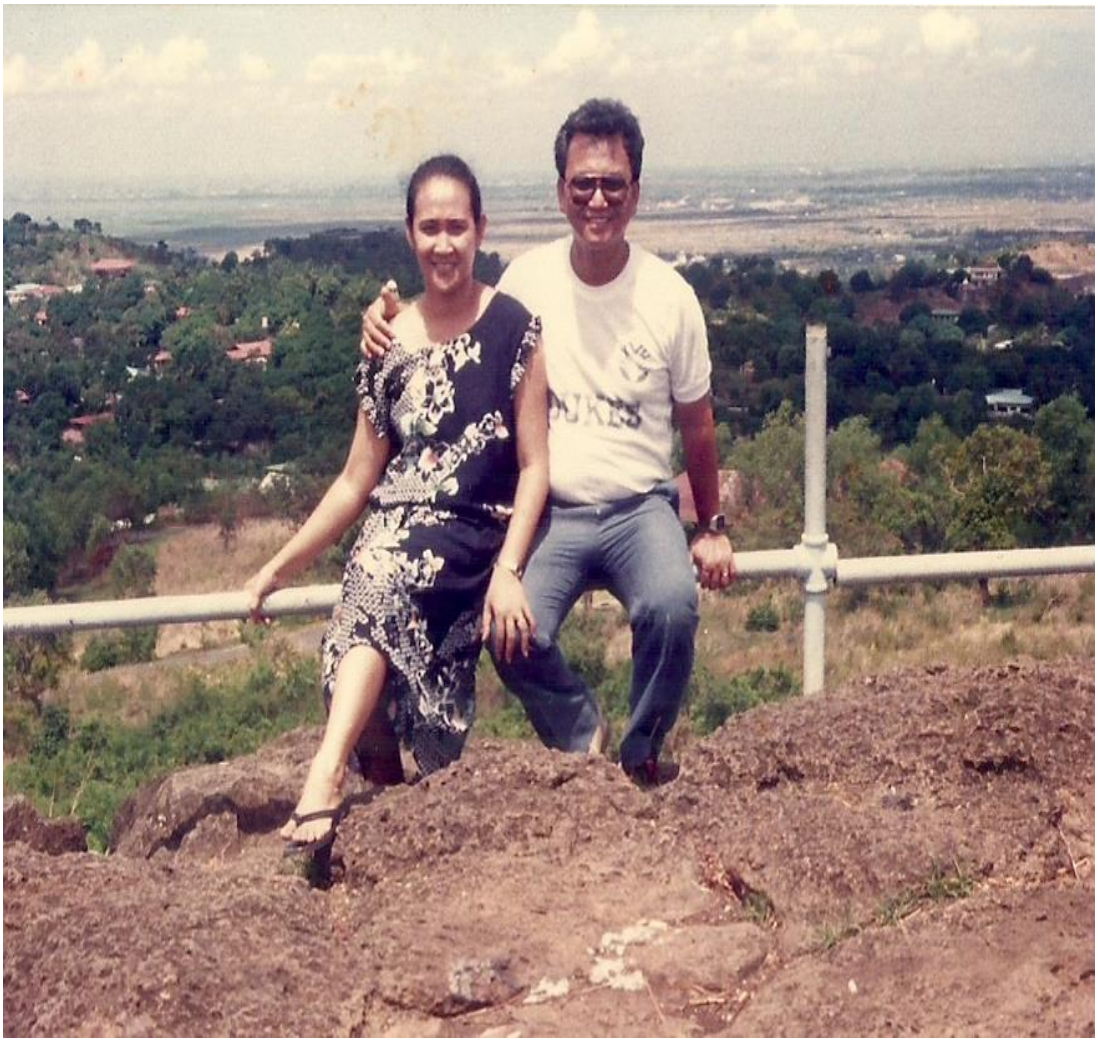
Bel on MacArthur Island of the Hundred Islands of Pangasinan, 1992

At the Baguio Cathedral in 992

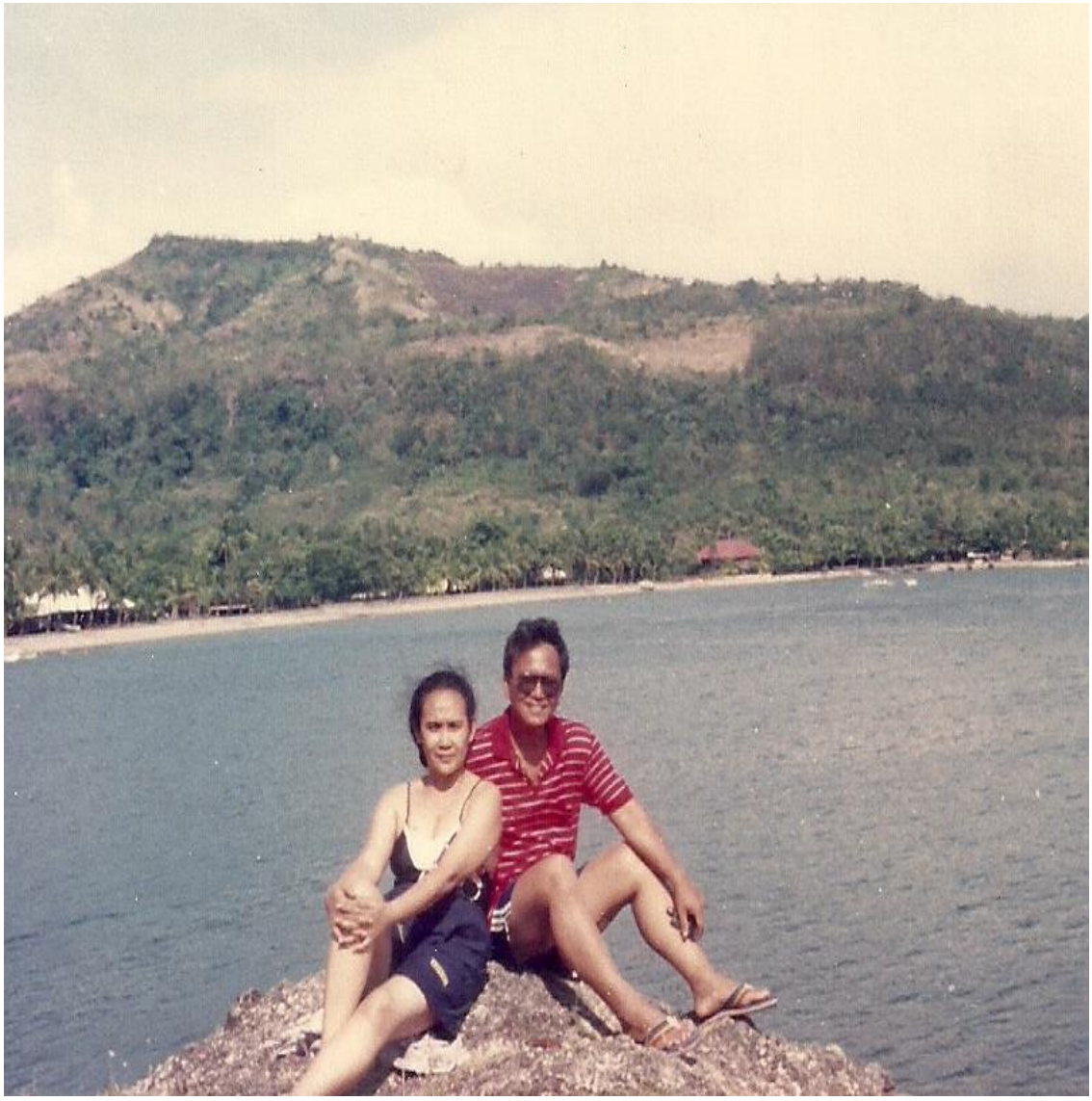
At the Chocolate Hills of Bohol 1994

Our lunch on the floating restaurant of Loboc, Bohol 1994

Celebrating our 20th Wedding Anniversary at PEB 1996



At the view deck hill of Antipolo, 1997



At Pico de Lorro, Nasugbu, Batangas, 1996

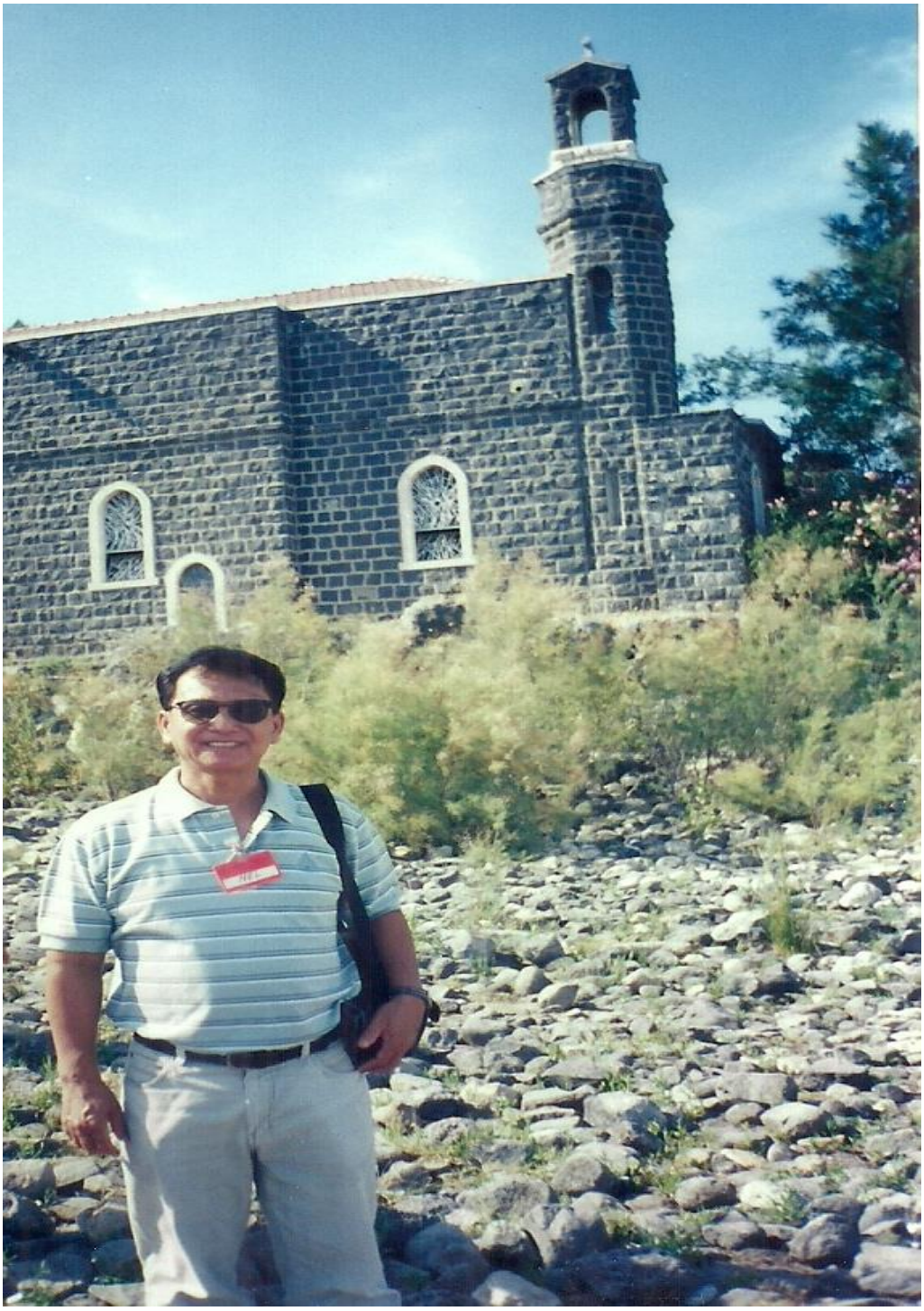
At the Matabunca Falls of Paete Laguna, 2002

At Hong Kong International Airport waiting for our connecting flight to Israel for our Jubilee Year tour of the Holy Land, Rome and Lourdes, 2000

Our visit of the Church of Cana with our tour chaplain, Fr. Paul Medina OCRM

Bel at Caparnaum before the statue of St. Peter:

Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church.



Behind me is the Church of St. Peter in Caparnaum

On Mt. Tabor, the place of the Transfiguration of our Lord near the Franciscan monastery

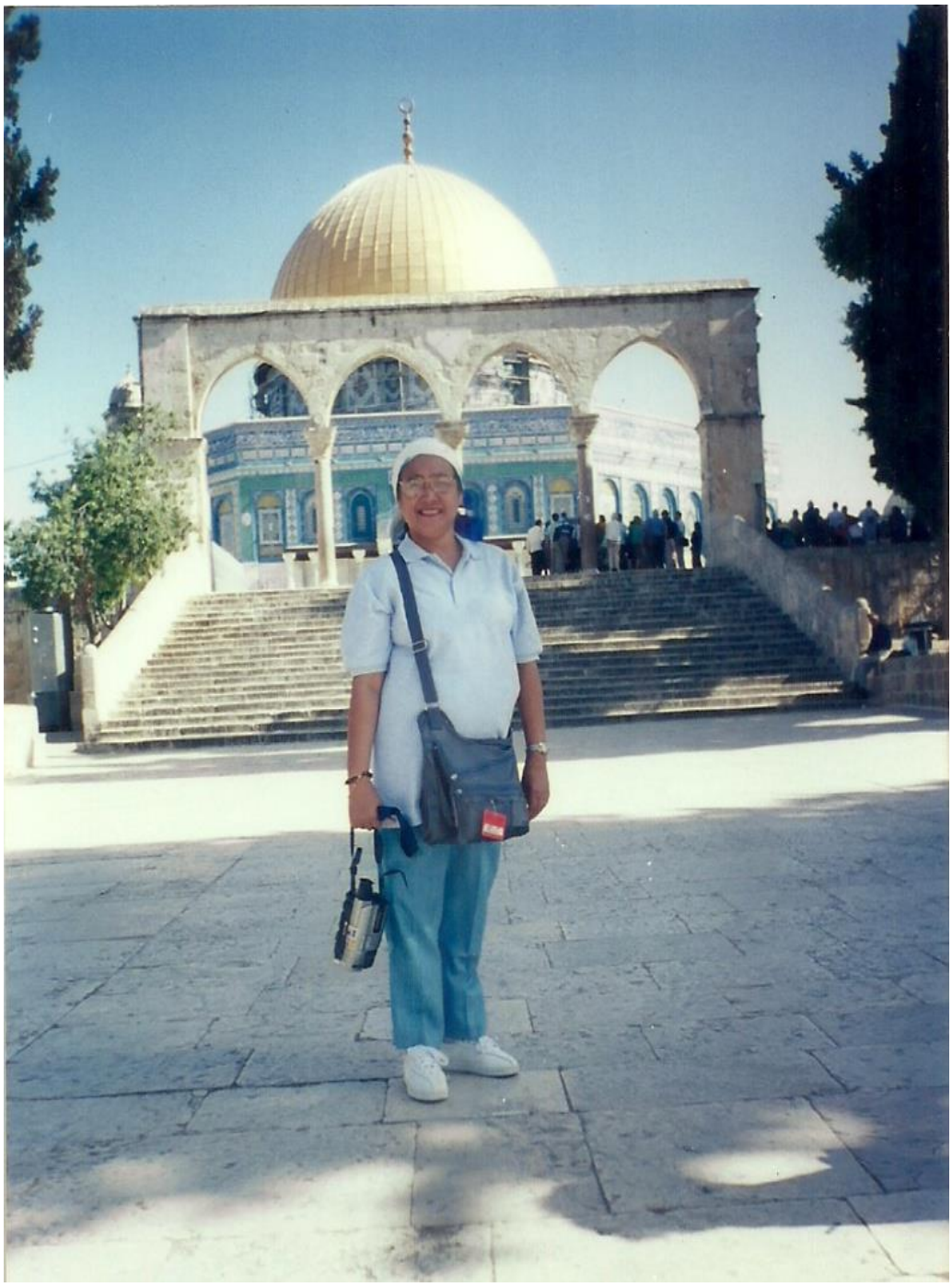
My photo with the view overlooking the city of Jerusalem

on Mt. Olives

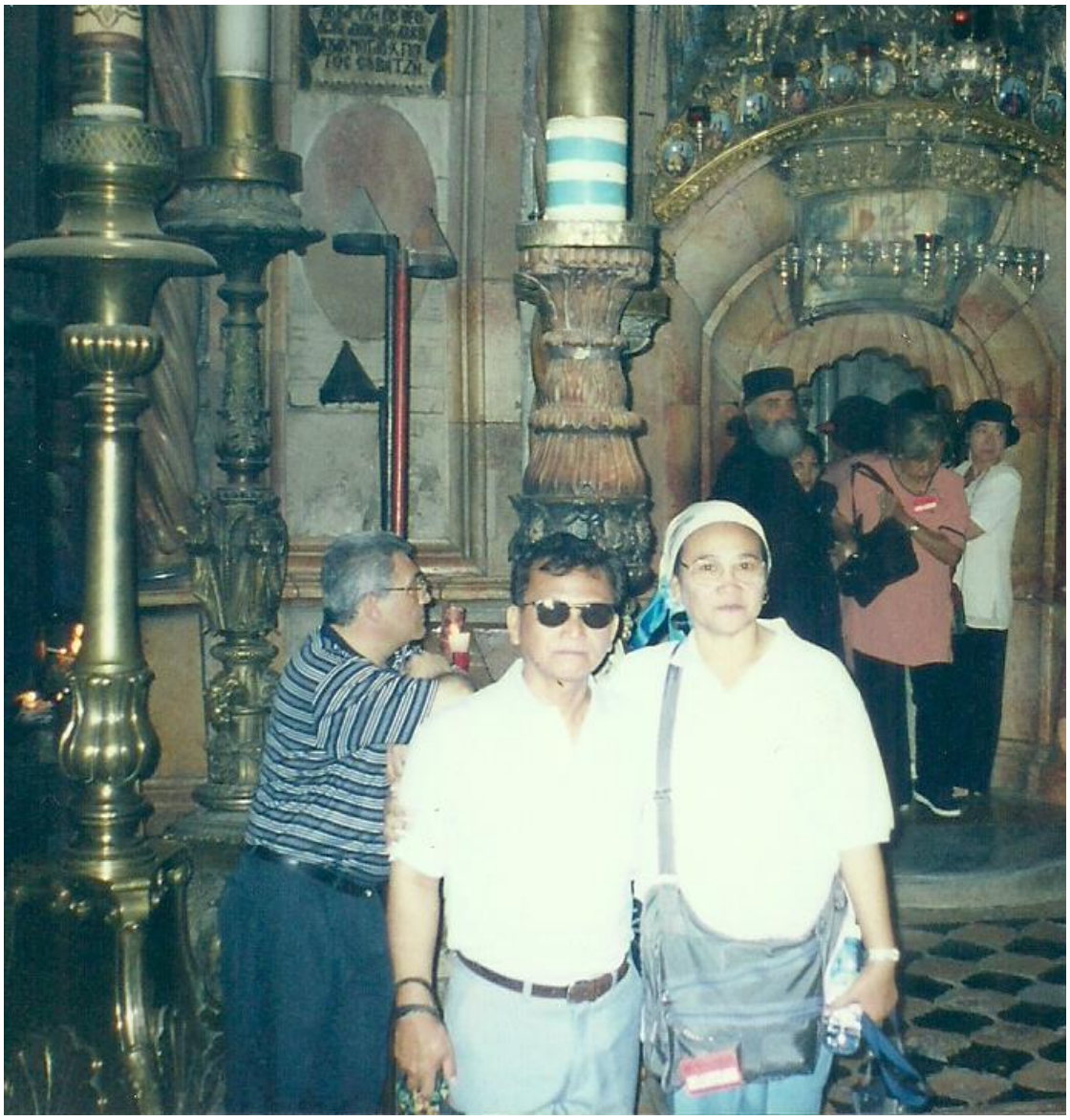
The spot where Jesus was born in Bethlehem

The rock where the foot prints of Jesus was impressed before His Ascension into heaven on Mt. Olives

Bel with the Wailing Wall behind her



Bel with the Dome of Rock behind her in Jerusalem



Our photo inside the Church of the Holy Sepulcher

Bel at the piazza of the Basilica Minore of Blessed Fr. Pio in Govanni Rotondo, Italy

Our photo before the Basilica of St. Peter in Rome

Bel before her entry through the Holy Door

Bel on the way to the catacombs of Domitilia

My photo at the Fonti di Trevi

Bel’s turn

Bel's photo at the plaza of Lourdes

where the candle procession is held

Bel before the Basilica of Lourdes

My turn

Bel at the Grotto of Lourdes

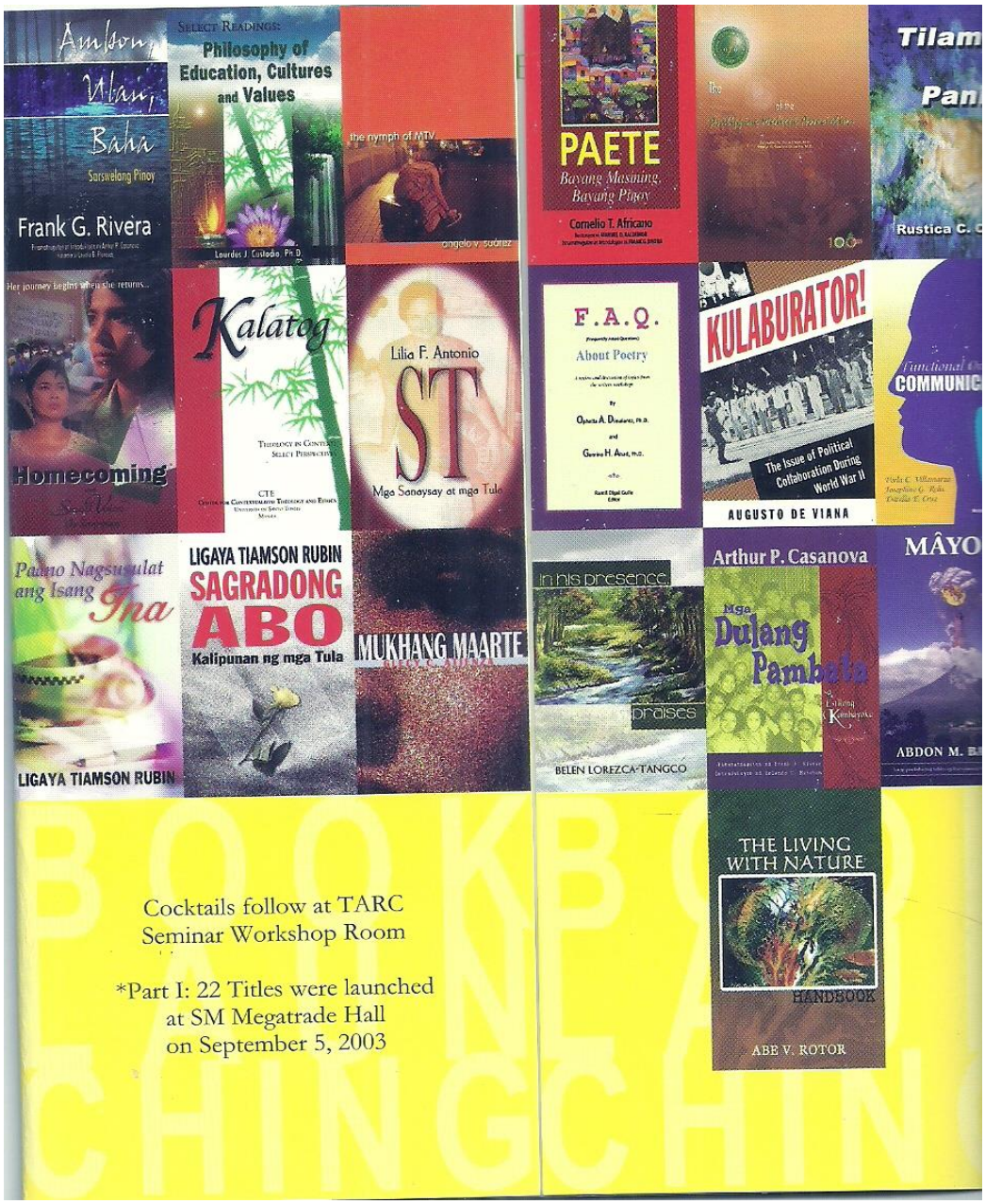
My turn

Bel before the Niagara Falls during her trip in 2002

Bel before the Toronto Tower

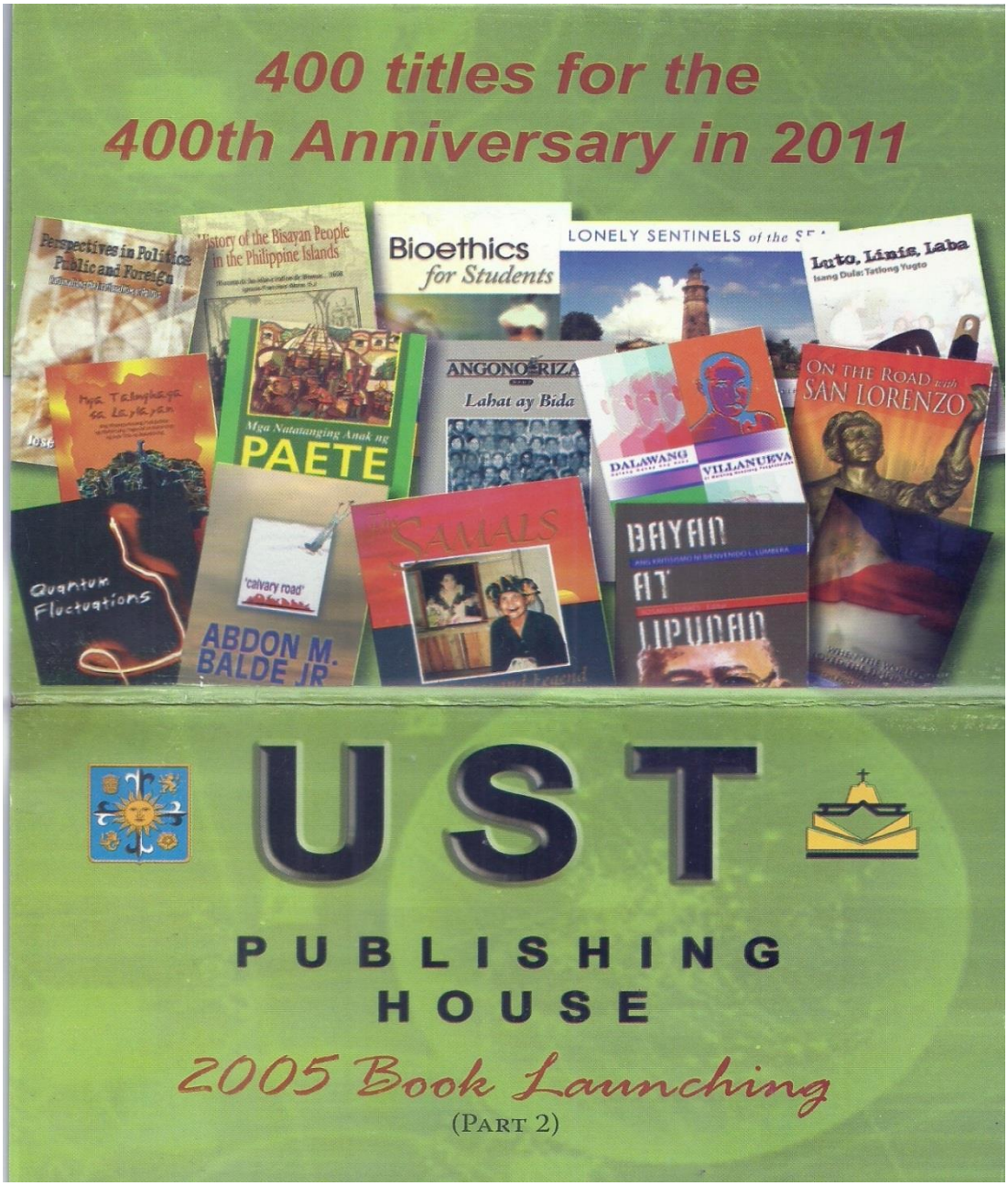
Bel at the Toronto Garden with the blooming tulips

Bel at St. Mary's Church



Poster of the books sponsored by the UST Publishing House

For the celebration of the 400th Foundation Year of UST


400 titles for the
400th Anniversary in 2011
Perspectives in Politics: Public and Foreign
History of the Bisayan People in the Philippine Islands
Bioethics for Students
LONELY SENTINELS of the SE
Luto, Linis, Laba
Isang Dula: Tatlong Yugto
Mga Talinghaga sa Layag-an
Mga Natatanging Anak ng PAETE
ANGONO-RIZA
Lahat ay Bida
DALAWANG
VILLANUEVA
ON THE ROAD with SAN LORENZO
Quantum Fluctuations
"calvary road"
ABDON M. BALDE JR
SAMALS
BAYAN
AT
LIPUNAN
UST
PUBLISHING
HOUSE
2005 Book Launching
(Part 2)

The authors of the books

With me third from left on the second row

My special guests

My uncles and auntie on the first row

Raul Roque and Amang Vicente with us on the second row

First trip to Boracay in 2006

Waiting for our flight to Macau in 2006

Our evening stroll of Macau with Taipa Grand Hotel

where we stayed

At the inauguration of the Mini-replica of religious images of Paete at the Sentrong Pangkultura ng Paete 2006

My 2006 photo

Our chef for the reception 2006

Walking our way at the International Airport of Hong Kong

to board our flight for Bejing 2008

Among the three century old trees at the Temple of Heaven’s Garden

Bel on the way to the Temple of Heaven

Standing before the Grand Temple of Heaven

My pose at the man-made lake of the Summer Palace

At the Great Wall of China

Before the Statue of Emperor Li of the Ming Dynasty

The view of the Emperor’s Palace

At the grounds of the Forbidden City

Before the Legislative Building at the Tiananmen Square

At the Tiananmen Square with the Heroes' Monument

On our way out of the Forbidden City

圆柏
学名：Sabina chinensis (L.)Ant.
别名：桧柏、刺柏
科属：柏科、柏属
古柏枝干苍劲，与延辉阁有机结合为一体，形成“高阁倚紫垣，翠柏映延晖”的绝妙景观，其树干奇特，瘤状突起，俗称“疙瘩柏”。
The ancient cypress with old and hardy branches is well integrated with the Pavilion of Lasting Sunshine, thus forming a fabulous scene of "High Pavilion rests against imperial wall; green cypress sets off lasting sunshine." With protruding tumors on its strange trunk, the tree is nicknamed "lump tree".
aigo pen

The centuries old ginger tree near the exit

The Olympic Games Tower behind us

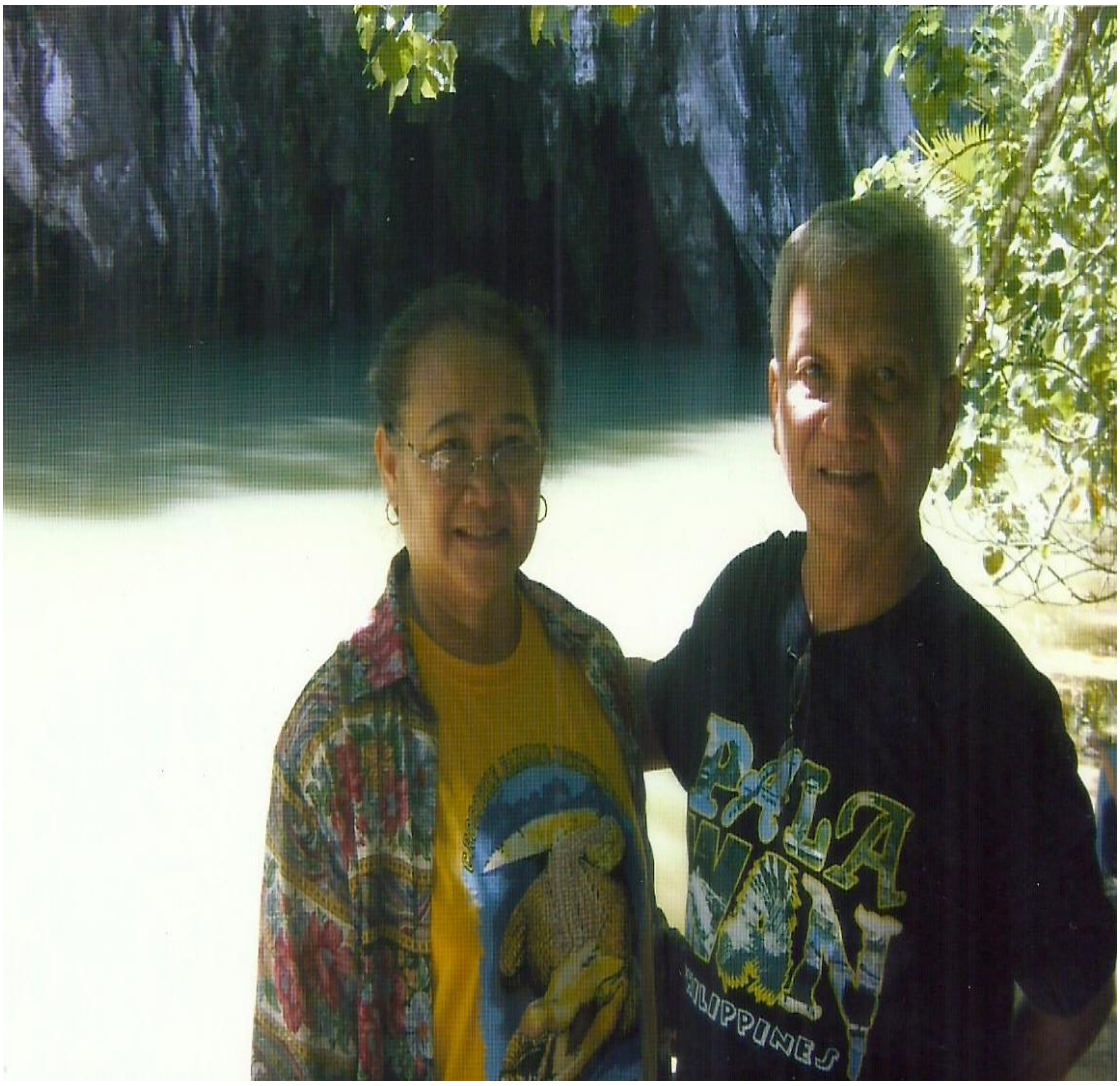
Bel with the famed Bird's Nest Stadium

My close-up photo in Beijing

Our Singapore Sojourn 2009

Pre-Christmas Shopping at Singapore Mall

First trip to Palawan Underground river in 2008

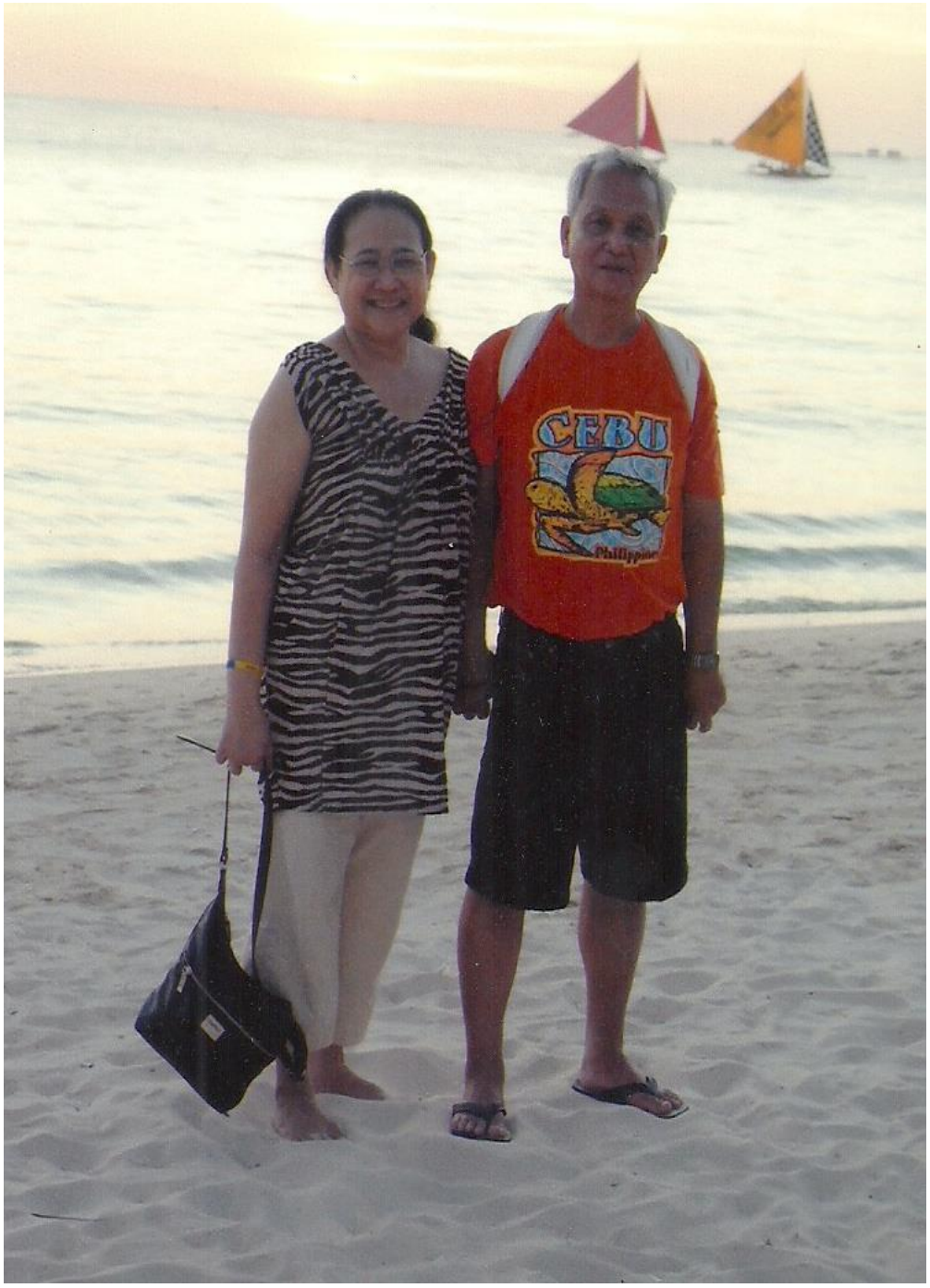


The entrance of the underground river behind us

Our photo during Ria’s graduation in medicine, 2008

Celebrating my birthday at Kimono Resto in Fort Bonifacio

Our second trip to Boracay in 2010



On the white beach of Boracay

At the Ponce Resto- Gallery, Davao City 2008

Recuperating at home after my quadruple bypass operation

In St. Luke's Medical Center, QC on July 10, 2010

Sponsors at Teacher Melo’s Wedding 2010

Sponsors at Teacher Denmark's Wedding 2010

At Santo Rosario Church in UST

Attended Atcho's Wedding 2011

Bel blows her cake at the celebration of her birthday in Sambokojin Resto, April 12,2012

Sponsors at Teresa's Wedding in June, 2012

San Antonio Church in Silang, Cavite

First Bali Indonesia Escapade, 2011

at St. Francis Xavier Church

At the Pura Bukit Sari Temple

At the monument of the Great Aman Sanghe

At the gate of the Tahnalot Temple

At the gate of the Royal Court of Klung-klung

Before the monument of King Wisnu in Uluwatu

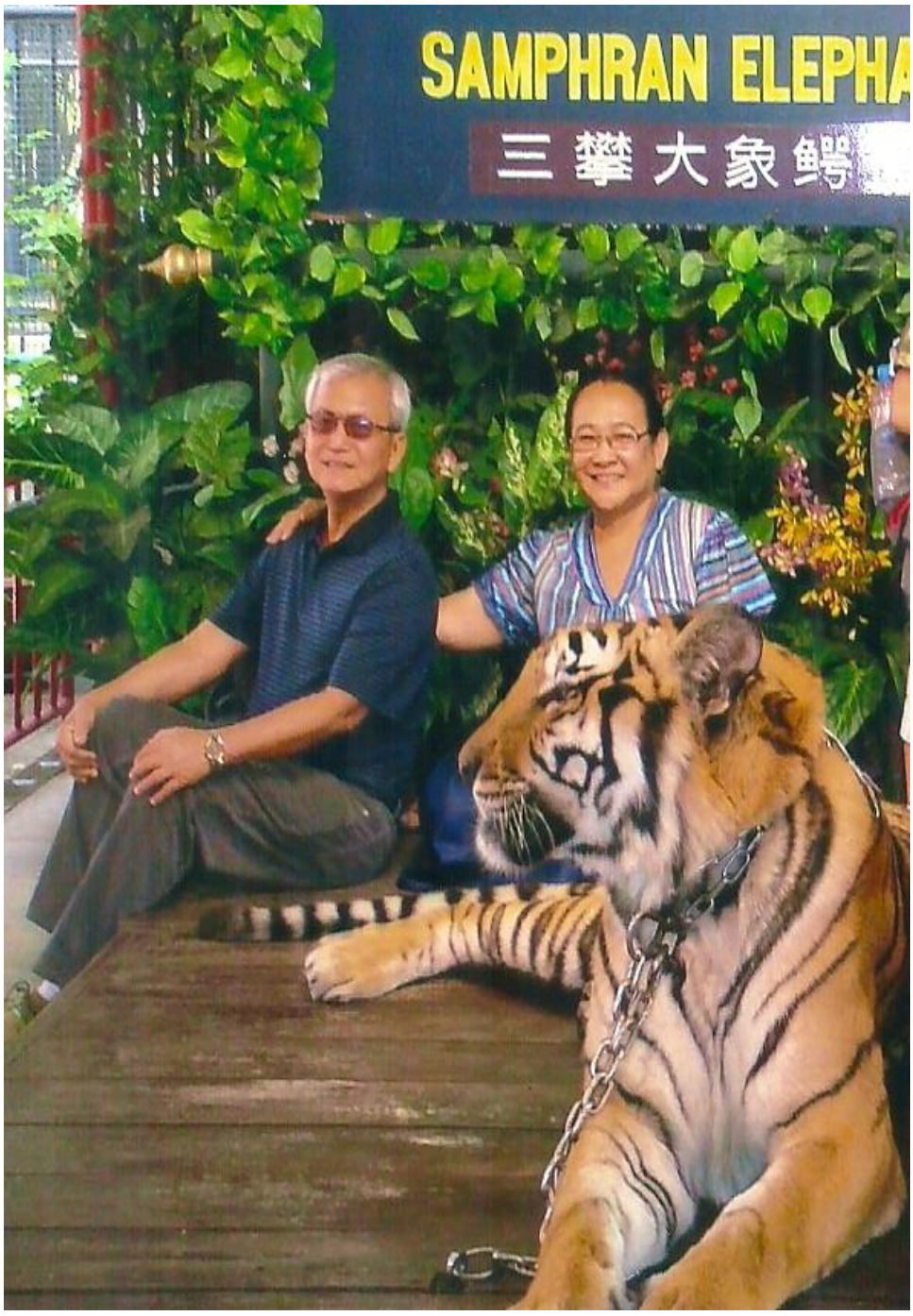
At the Mother Temple of Besakih

At the Bedugul Temple

The Bedugul temple and the sacred lake

Dinner at sunset at Jimbaran beach

Bel by the bell of the Golden Buddha temple Bangkok, Thailand 2011



Our pose with a ferocious tiger

Our elephant ride

Bel being caressed by an elephant

Bel before King Bumibhol's birthday portrait

European Essentials Tour 2012

At Dubai International Airport

With the Roman Coliseum

At the Fontana di Trevi

With the Head of David at the Vatican Museum Square

With the Sphere Monument

My photo of the Pieta inside St. Peter Basilica

On our exit from St. Peter Square

Our pose at the Spanish Steps

On our way to the Basilica of St Francis

With the panoramic view of Assisi

The Basilica of St. Francis behind us

The Cathedral and the Leaning Tower of Pisa behind us

Bel and the Duomo of Pisa

Don’t lean on Me!

Our gondola ride in Venice

At the Piazza di San Marco

With the Tower of Venice

Our coffee break at the promenade of Doug Palace

The tour bus of Salzburg, Austria, location shoot

Of the movie

At Marebella Garden, Salzburg, Austria

Mozart's hometown

At the bridge of fortune with Old Salzburg at the background

The Cathedral of Salzburg where Mozart was baptized.

At Swarovski Crystal Gallery, Innsbruck, Switzerland

At the Commercial Center of Innsbruck with the Alps at the background

Having our break at Vaduz, Leichentiens, Switzerland

Getting ready for our climb to Mt. Titlis

Our cable car ride to the 10,000 feet high Mt. Titlis

Engelberg, Switzerland

At the snow top of Mt. Titlis

Walking through the snow tube of Mt. Titlis

The Century Old Wooden Bridge of Lucerne, Switzerland

Scouted for affordable Swiss watch at the famed Bucherer Store

c

The Rhine River near the border of Germany and Switzerland

A cuckoo clock shop cum resto at Titisee

The scenic view of lake Titisee

At the bank of Nuremberg river in Germany where Rizal wrote his poem

To the Flowers of Nuremberg

At the Parliament Square of Frankfurt, Germany

The Cathedral of Cologne

The Statue of St. Christopher inside the Cathedral

The Excelsior Hotel where I stayed during my first visit in 1981

At the border of Dolendam, Amsterdam

At the Amsterdam Park

Bel before our river cruise

The bus that took us around Central Europe

At the Atomium of Belgium

At the statue of Manneken Pis, Bruselles

Mimicking the statue

Bel at the Grand Place of Bruselles

Paris by night with the Eiffel Tower burning bright

With the model of the Statue of Liberty

The Eiffel Tower and us

The magnificent Eiffel Tower

With the Arc du Triomphe

Bel at the Grand Opera House of Paris

The famed Lafayette Mall and me

With the Louvre Museum behind us

The Arc du Carousel and us

Photo of the Notre Madame Cathedral taken during our cruise of the Siene River

Singapore sojourn 2012

Waiting for me

Before our entry to the Studios

A

At the Disney Palace

At PEB

At Magaaso hot spring 2013

At the Cagsawa Ruins after 35 years

At Kawa-kawa Park, Ligao, Albay

At Santo Domingo Highway

Visit at Tiwi Pot Factory

Celebrating my 70th Birthday at Lunal

With special guests: Nana Pining from Henderson, Nevada

And my good friends, Uwing and Del Baldemor

With my Africano Family

With Bel's Narce Family

With my Tuazon Family

Bel chopping the lechon with Don, Vicky and JR

Our Malaysian sojourn at Merdeka Park, Kuala Lumpur 2014

At the Petronas Tower, Kuala Lumpur

At Estana Negara Royal Palace, Kuala Lumpur

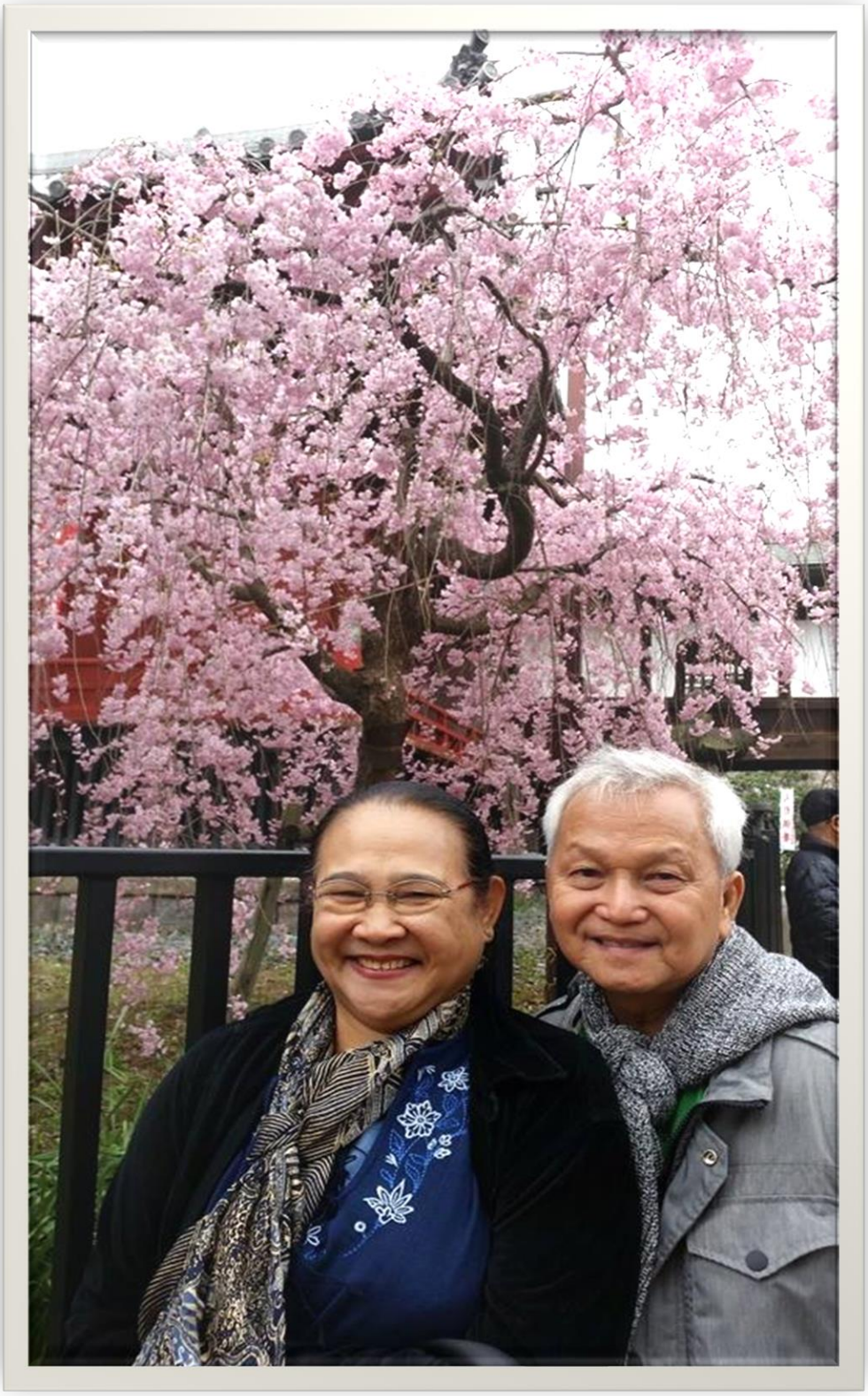
At the Lego Land, Malaysia

The replica of the Petrona Towers of Lego bricks

Farewell photo at Merdeka Park

At the Narita Interntional Airport , Tokyo Japan, April 2015

For our Nippon Escapade



Our first photo with Sakura in bloom at Inoni Park

Waiting for our walk at the Grand Shibuya Crossing of Tokyo

At the Imperial Palace Garden

At the Sensoji Temple

At the entrance of Shimogami Shrine, Kyoto, Japan

Inside the Shimogami Shrine Compound

At the Tori Gate of a thousand orange posts

Before a Sakura in full bloom

At the passage in the Bamboo Forest

Beside the Statue of Emperor Hideyoshi, Unificador of Japan

Our pose with the Castle of Osaka

Again in PEB

Inside the PNP Headquarters in Camp Crame

Cambodia Adventure 2016

Entrance of Angkor Wat in Siem Reap, Cambodia

With the Main Temple of Angkor Wat

At the entrance gate of Angkor Thom

Among the ruins of Angkor Thom

At the West Entry of Preah Khan Shrine

At the East Entry of Preah Kahn Shrine

On our way to Kho Kre Shrine

At the Entrance of Kho Kre Shrine

Inside the Angkor Wat Museum at Siem Reap

Camiguin Revisited, April 2016

At the Tuasan Falls

Boodle fight at PEB, 2016

Celebrating our 40th 2016 Wedding Anniversary

At the Aquino Residence in Punta Fuego Nasugbu, Batangas , 2016

At the Sala

At the reception of the Opening of Estrada-Aquino Law office

At Marco Polo at Ortigas Center, Pasig

At PEB

At Burhnam Park, Baguio 2016

Bali Escapade 2016

At the reception area of Bali Masari Resort, Sukawati,Bali Indonesia

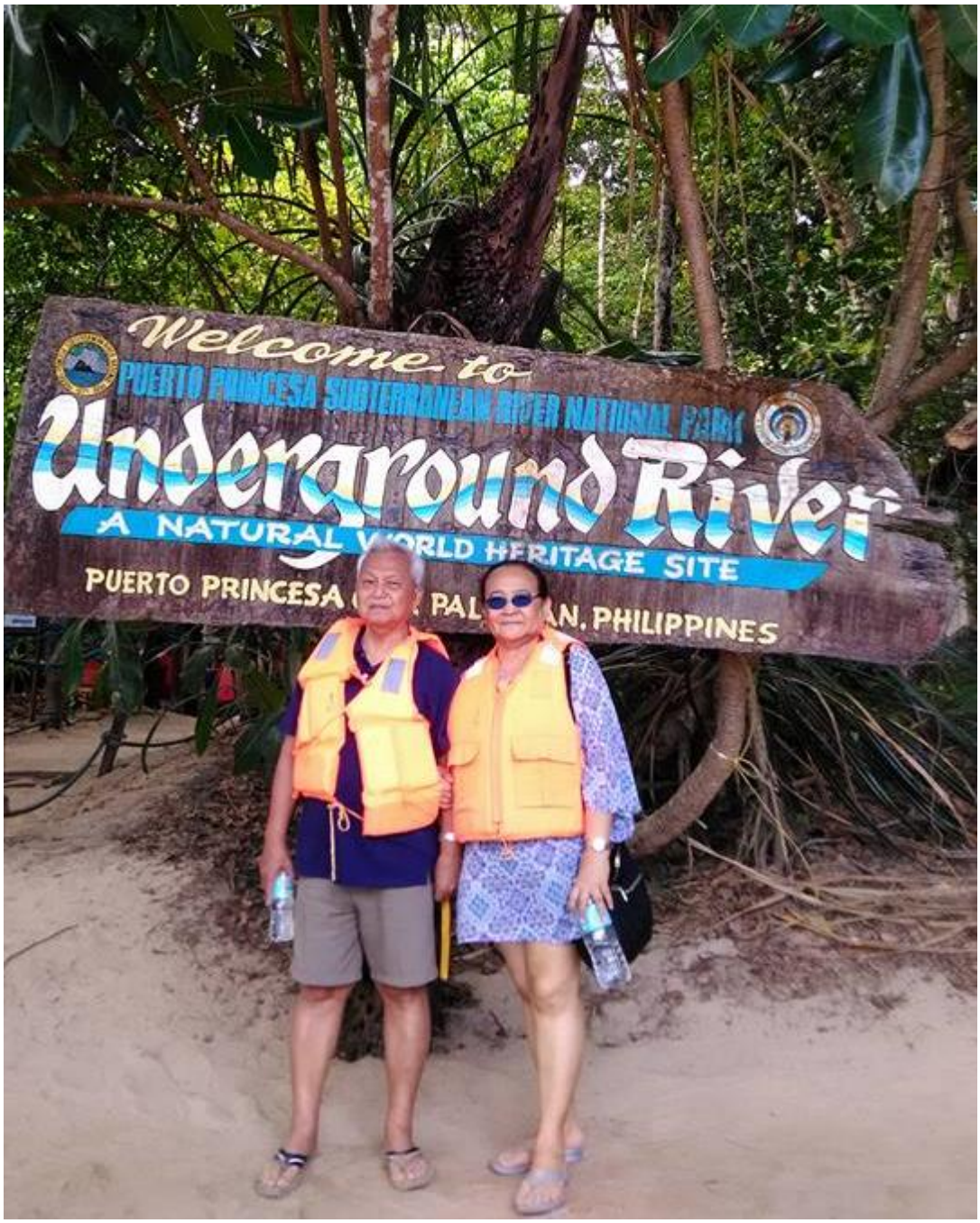
At the main gate of Besakih Mother Temple

A Temple gate at Sukawati, Bali, Indonesia

At a jewelry store in Ubod

At the departure area of Ngurharai, International Airport

PEB 2017



Palawan Adventure 2017

At the Crocodile Museum

At one of the big island of El Nido

Sunset at El NIdo

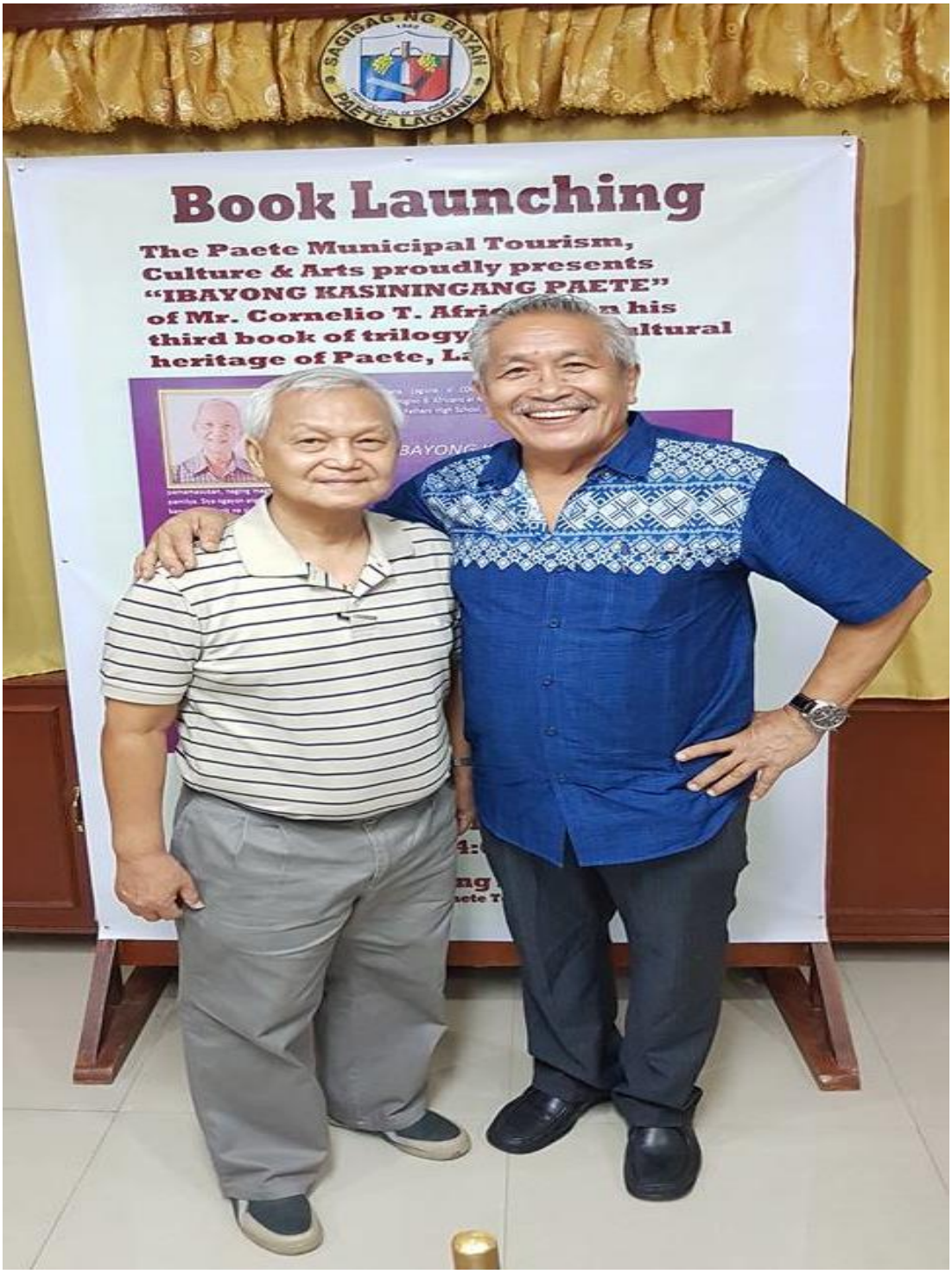
2017 Vietnam Sojourn

At the Lobby of Grand Equatorial Hotel, Ho Chi Minh

Our newly found brother, Frater Pham Xuan Thanh OFM

The Saigon Cathedral

My speech at the book launch



Manny Baldemor and Me

Book Launching
The Paete Municipal Tourism,
Culture & Arts proudly presents
"IBAYONG KASININGANG PAETE"
of Mr. Cornelio T. Africano on his
third book of trilogy on rich cultur
eritage of Paete, Laguna.

My special guests: Congressman Benjie Agarao and

Siblings Mayora Nelda and Manny Baldemor

Book Launching
The Paete Municipal Tourism, Culture & Arts proudly presents "IBAYONG KASININGANG PAETE" of Mr. Cornelio T. Africano on his third book of trilogy on rich cultural heritage of Paete, Laguna.
IBAYONG KASININGANG
PAETE
CORNELIO T. AFRICANO
November 18, 2017
Saturday 4:00pm
at
Tahanan ng Lahi
(located beside Paete Town Plaza)

Explaining how and why I wrote the book:

Ibayong Kasiningang Paete

Me and the shy Mayon

At Sumlang lake, in Camalig, Albay Jan 2018

Holding my plaque of recognition and award

Republika ng Pilipinas
Lalawigan ng Laguna
Bayan ng Paete
GAWAD PARANGAL
kay
G. CORNELIO "NEL" T. AFRICANO
bilang Kauna-unahang Taga Paete na pagkakalooban ng
Mariano B. Madriñan Award
Pebrero 17, 2018 ika-2:00 ng hapon
Liwasang Dr. Antonio A. Baldemor
Sitio Casile, Barangay 4 Quinale
Paete, Laguna

With Manuel D. Bsldemor – the endorser and sponsor of the award

Reminiscent of my wedding kiss December 2018

As sponsors of Teacher Ces' wedding

At the UP Chapel of the Divine Redeemer

At the reception area of the Aura Hotel, San Pablo City January 2018

May 2018, South Korea

At the Vistacay Hotel in Jeju Island, South Korea 2018

After crossing the one kilometer long bridge at the port of Jeju Island

At the rock formation heritage site of Jeju Island

With the single rock formation at the heritage site of Jeju Island

At the fountain of the Greek Museum

On the grand avenue of the Imperial palace in Seoul, South Korea

With a Guard at the entrance of the Imperial Palace

With an Imperial Drum of the Palace

Inside the Imperial Palace compound

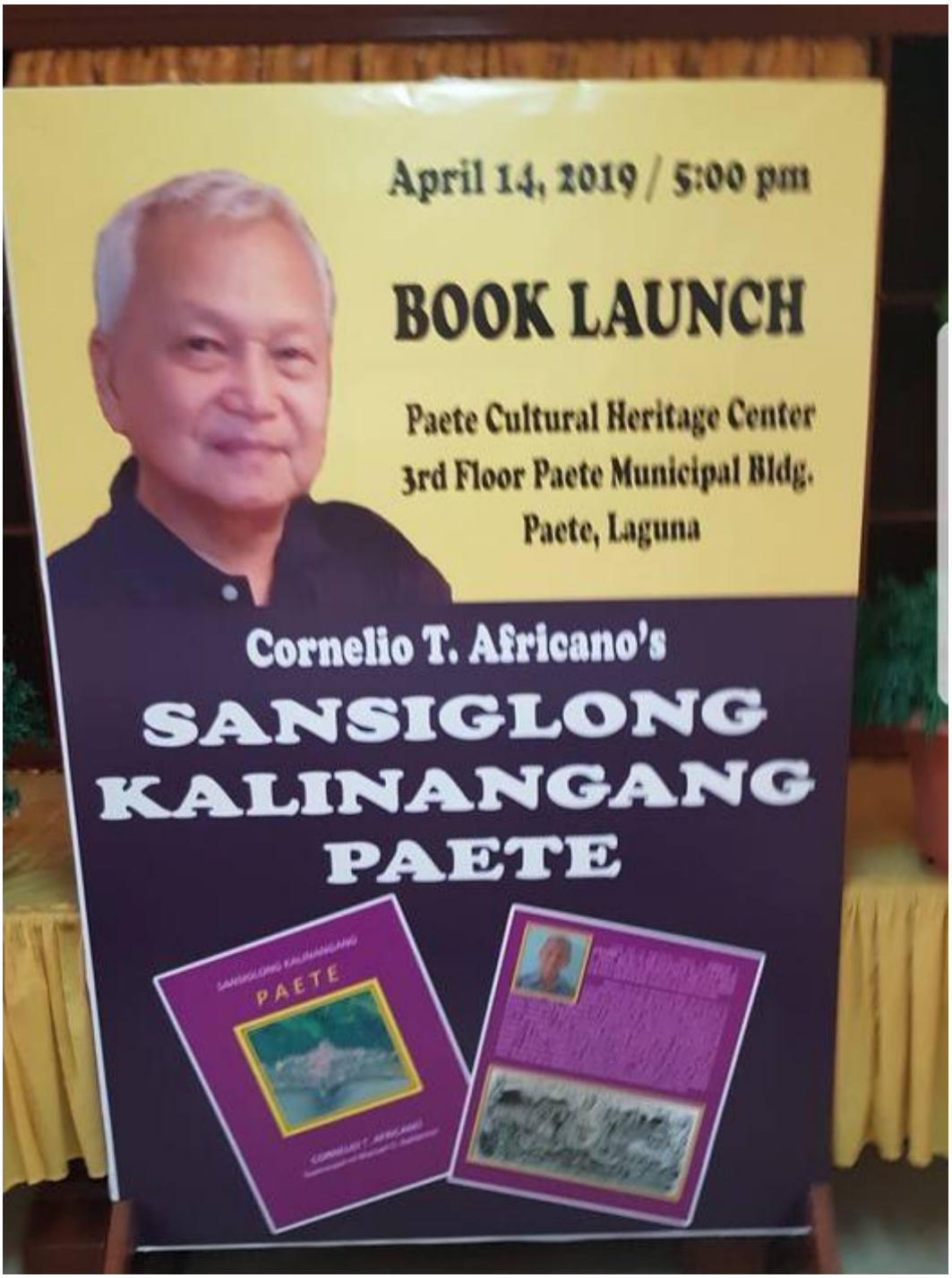
Our respite on a floating resto at Palena, Roxas City

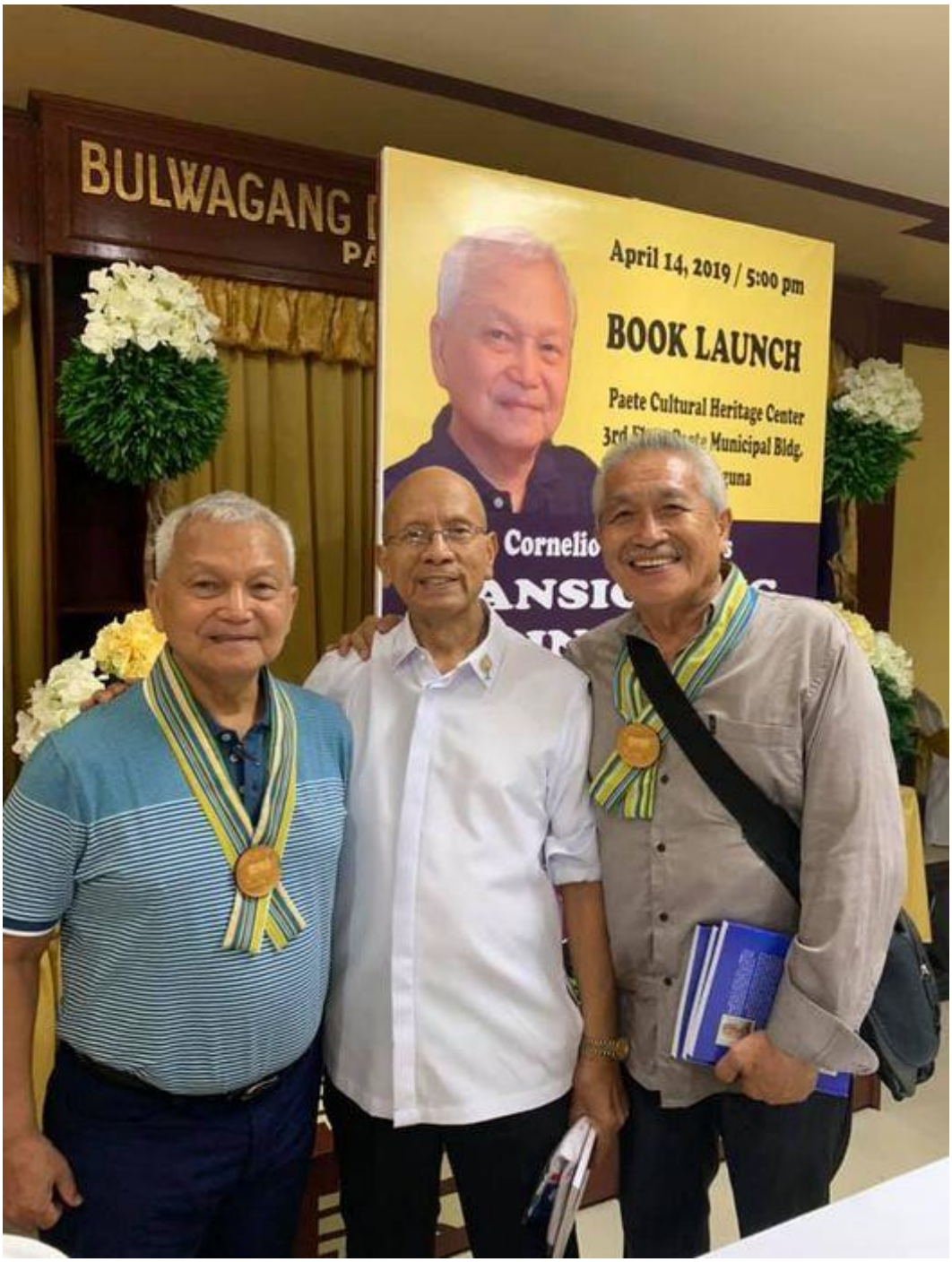
On an islet called PANDAN of the Higantes Islands of Iloilo

Celebrating Bel' 70th birthday at Dona Juanita Resto

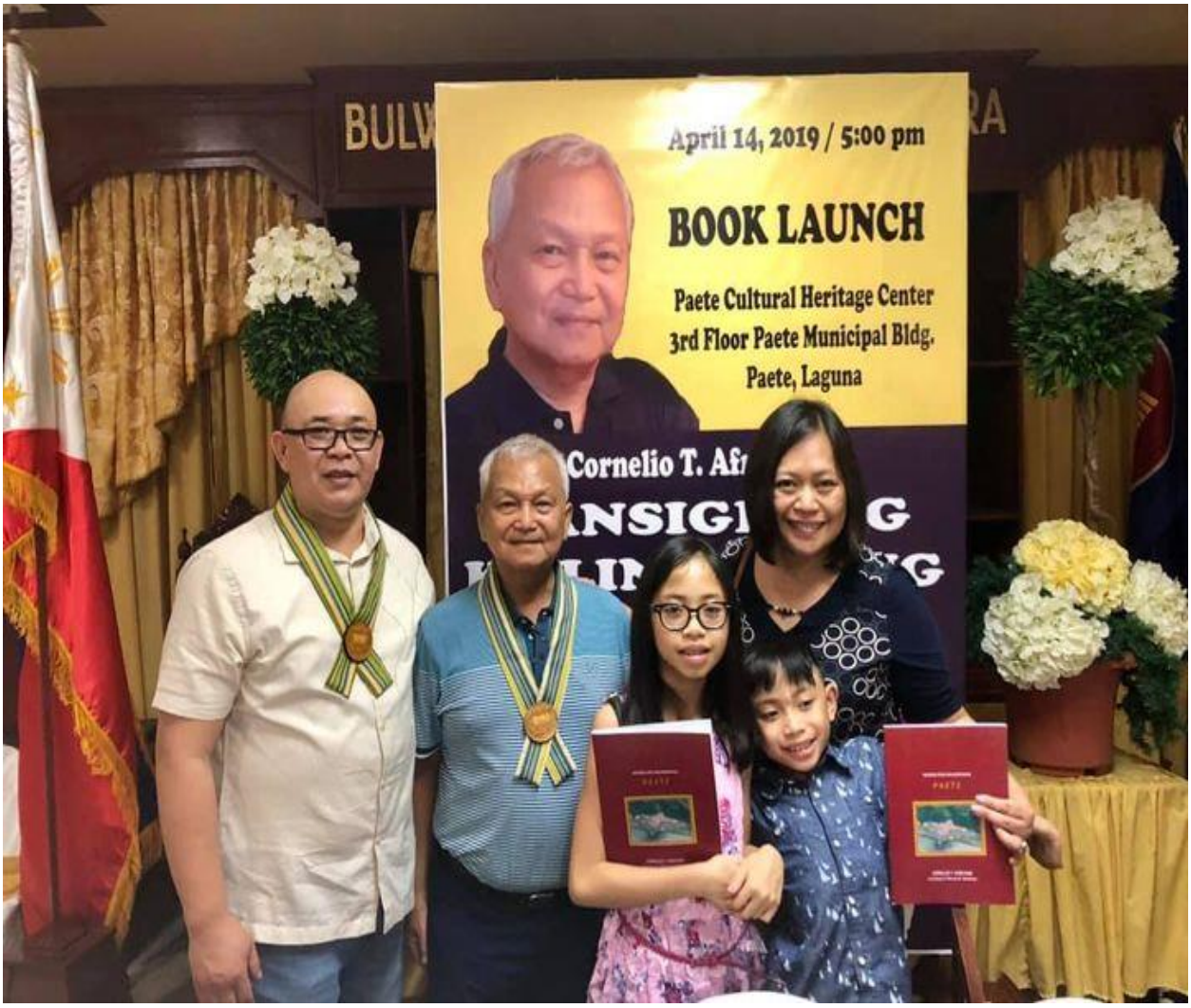
In Barrio Capitolyo, Pasig, 2019

Presentation of her Birthday Cake

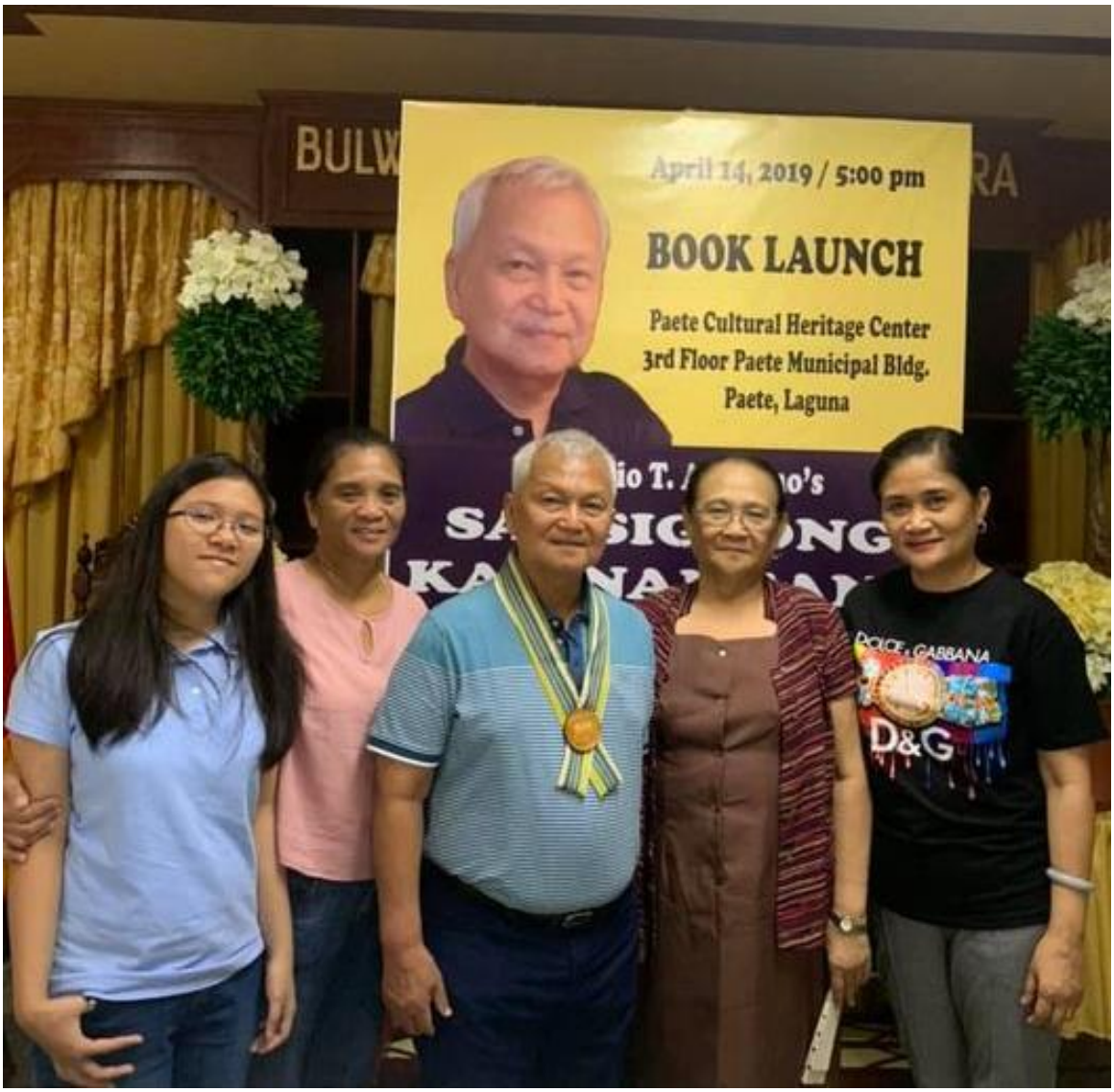

April 14, 2019 / 5:00 pm
BOOK LAUNCH
Paete Cultural Heritage Center
3rd Floor Paete Municipal Bldg.
Paete, Laguna
Cornelio T. Africano's
SANSIGLONG
KALINANGANG
PAETE
PAETE



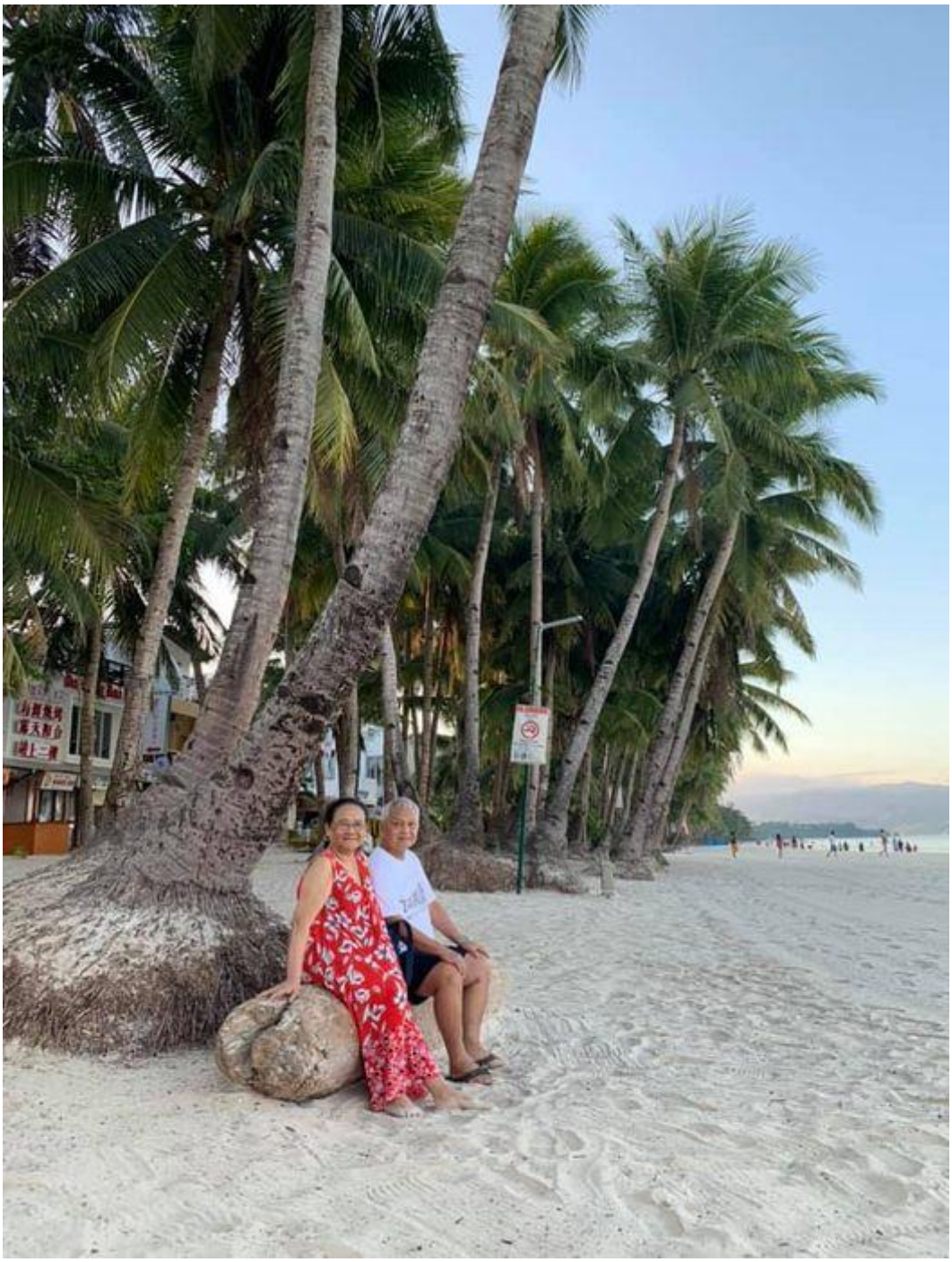
With Pareng Nito and Uwing



With the family of my cousin Paul C. Balan, US coin designer



With my Bel, Baybee, Sue and daughter Pia



At the beach of Boracay on our 43rd Wedding Anniversary

May 1, 2019

Our isle in Boracay

At dawn in Boracay

On the rubber wrap of Boracay

Watching the beautiful sunset in Boracay

Strolling the white beach of Boracay at early dawn

Our visit to our Lady of Manaoag, April 2019

Escorting Jun on his Silver Wedding Day, June 2019

At Baclayon Church

At the view deck of Chocolate Hills

At Astoria Beach Resort where we stayed

My books done during nine months of the Pandemic.

My visit with Nana Rosa on Christmas Day 2020

Our Photo on Christmas Day 2020

Noche Buena on New Year’s Eve at home